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## WORLD



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Man engages cops in car chase. **PAGE 6**

## IN RECENT MONTHS

# Inos: Some 20 pregnant tourists denied entry over 'paper issues'

» **Security deposit, steep hikes in birth certificate cost eyed also to deter birth tourism**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

**G**ov. Eloy S. Inos said some 20 tourists were separately sent back home in recent months, not because they were pregnant but because they had “documentation problems.” The CNMI is eyeing extra measures to curb “birth tourism” such as requiring a hospital security deposit or possibly raising the cost of a birth certificate from the current \$20 to \$50,000 for tourists.

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## CHILDHOOD HEALTH AWARENESS

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, and 11-year-old cancer survivor Juan Blanco, left, address the crowd in the governor's conference room during Friday's signing of proclamations declaring September 2013 both as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. The governor also declared September 2013 National Preparedness Month and Coastal Month.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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## All roads lead to public schools today

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Education officials and members of the Board of Education will be going around public school campuses today to observe and ensure the smooth flow of class opening at all levels.

Over 10,000 students are expected to be in classrooms today for the start of the new school year 2013-2014. Classes start at 7:30am for elementary and 8:30am for secondary schools.

As of last week, Public School System records indicate a total of 935 employees, including more than

See **SCHOOLS** on **Page PB**

## Manila says China set impossible conditions

By **JIM GOMEZ**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III canceled a trip to a Chinese trade fair after Beijing demanded that he first withdraw

a legal complaint over disputed territories in the South China Sea, Filipino officials said Monday.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and two other diplomats relayed conditions for Aquino to attend the annual China-ASEAN Expo, which opens Tuesday in the southern city of Nanning, Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Raul Hernandez told a news conference.

Hernandez declined to detail the conditions, but said these were “abso-

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**Hernandez**



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## Local



## CNMI STEPS UP AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ON HEALTH, NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS, COASTAL AREAS

# 'Almost 4 newly diagnosed cancer cases among kids 17 and below a year'

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, both seated, join government officials, health advocates, cancer survivors and their families for a group photo after the governor signed proclamations on Friday declaring September 2013 both as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

From 2007 to 2011, an average of 3.6 newly diagnosed cancer cases each year are among children 17 years old and below, a testament to the adage that "cancer knows no age."

Meanwhile, in school year 2010-2011, 39 percent of public school students on the islands were either overweight or at-risk of being overweight.

Raising awareness, following preventive measures, and seeking treatment for childhood cancer and childhood obesity may be easier said than done but the CNMI has seen its share of success stories.

"More still needs to be done," Gov. Eloy S. Inos said at a proclamation signing on Friday morning, taking note of the glaring statistics on childhood health in the CNMI while at the same time acknowledging the ongoing efforts to prevent and treat them.

Early detection of childhood cancer and childhood obesity means early diagnosis and better prognosis, the governor's proclamation reads.

Juan Blanco, an 11-year-old diagnosed with leukemia in May 2007, said on Friday he's taking his recovery well, thanks to his family, friends, medical professionals and the community that has come together to help cancer survivors, including the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

The Mount Carmel School student helped read portions of a proclamation on Friday morning, declaring September 2013 Childhood Cancer and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.

Blanco was the same child who, in October 2010, got his wish to meet President Barack Obama through the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Of the 18 newly diagnosed cancer cases among 17-year-olds and younger in the CNMI, leukemia accounts for

33.3 percent. The five-year median age at diagnosis is 13 years old. These are based on data from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

"The causes of childhood cancers are largely unknown," states the proclamation that the governor signed in the presence of cancer survivors and their families, volunteers, and health professionals.

However, because of the work of the National Cancer Institute, scientists and cancer researchers throughout the U.S. and the rest of the world, real progress is being made against cancer.

In the U.S., the rate of new cancer cases overall has been declining since 1999, and the rate of cancer deaths overall has been decreasing for more than a decade.

These trends reflect improvements in cancer treatment and advances in technology that have led to better tools for understanding, detecting, and diagnosing cancer.

"People with cancer are living longer and have a better quality of life than ever before," the governor said.

Across the U.S., thousands of children fight pediatric cancer each year, facing life-threatening battles that would challenge men and women of any age.

Among the 12 major types of childhood cancers, leukemia or blood cell cancers, cancers of the brain, and cancers of the central nervous system account for more than half of the new cases.

About a third of childhood cancers are leukemia. The most common type of leukemia in children is acute lymphoblastic and the most common solid tumors are brain tumors.

### Obesity

Since the 1970s, the rate of childhood

obesity in the U.S. has tripled. Today, a third of American children are overweight or obese.

Obesity in the CNMI has also been growing at a fast clip. The CNMI has also ranked third in the world for prevalence of Type II diabetes.

Public School System data shows that in school year 2010-2011, some 18 percent of CNMI public school students were at-risk of being overweight, while 21 percent were overweight. This means 39 percent were either overweight or at-risk of being overweight.

These rates were higher than those recorded in schools year 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

The governor, in addressing the crowd on Friday, said more needs to be done to reduce the number of at-risk

and overweight students.

"I ask that we, the general population, continue to reach out to students. And to students, there are alternatives for a good, healthy living," Inos said.

Inadequate intake of fruits and vegetables is one of the top 10 risk factors for non-communicable diseases, data from the World Health Organization shows.

In the CNMI alone, preliminary results from the National Food and Nutrition questionnaire conducted at the Women, Infants and Children Clinic in fall 2009 shows that 65.1 percent of WIC children 12 months to 5 years old eat fruits one time or less per day and 69.1 percent eat vegetables one time or less a day.

"This data explains a lot. [The] CNMI has a big fruit and veggie consumption problem. We have amazing potential here. We can do something about it," one of the WIC partners said of the preliminary results of the survey.

In line with this, the CNMI has

joined the national Let's Move campaign, which raises a healthier generation of children. This year's theme and sub-theme are, "Let's Move Marianas! Yengyung with the Kankung!"

On Sept. 28, Saturday, advocates will hold an 8am to 11:30am Let's Move Marianas campaign at the Gilbert C. Ada Sports Complex.

The event will include live cooking/safety demonstrations, fun activities for the young and adults, testimonials from children on childhood obesity and childhood cancer, games and sports such as soccer, Frisbee throwing and obstacle course, along with Zumba and Boxcercise. For more information about this event, call 236-8638.

### Prostate Cancer Awareness

The governor also signed a proclamation declaring September 2013 CNMI Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with the theme, "Real Men Get Their Facts! Fight Prostate Cancer."

Bo Palacios, Commonwealth Cancer Association board secretary, said 10 percent of CCA clients are fighting prostate cancer.

The governor, during the ceremony, asked whether there is now a less invasive screening process for prostate cancer.

Dr. Daniel Lamar said that while the current screening process is uncomfortable, it is still the best method to detect prostate cancer. He said blood test is not entirely reliable.

"Our lifestyle plays a big role in preventing cancer," the doctor said.

About a third of prostate cancer occurs in men under the age of 65 during their prime work years. And at any age, prostate cancer devastates families through loss of income, partnership and support, the governor's proclamation reads.

Throughout the nation, some 30,000

men lost their lives to prostate cancer in 2010, and one in six men in the nation is at risk of developing it during their lifetime.

### Protecting coastal areas

The governor declared September 2013 Coastal Month, raising awareness on the preservation and protection of coastal areas for future generations. The first annual Coastal Month theme is, "Where land meets sea."

"The coastline is an ever changing place due to the dynamic nature of tides, and just like the coastline, we, the CNMI residents, are facing an ever changing environment that we are having to adapt to and protect," the governor's proclamation reads.

The coast is the most populated area for humans. This area where residents and tourists spend recreational time is in danger. The presence of trash, marine debris, bleached corals, and marine life on the coastlines indicate that something is wrong and people need to take action.

### National preparedness

Preparing homes, businesses, and communities for any type of emergency including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks to save lives and reduce economic devastation is the aim of declaring September 2013 National Preparedness Month.

"Emergency preparedness is the responsibility of every citizen of the CNMI and all citizens are encouraged to make preparedness a priority and work together as a team to ensure that individuals, families and communities are prepared for disasters and emergencies of any type," the governor said in his proclamation.

More information about the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Ready campaign is available at Ready.gov.



# OAG intends to call ex-convict witnesses vs Crisostomo

## »Defendant's counsel objects to exclusion of evidence of prior convictions

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has asked the Superior Court to prevent the lawyer of murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo from referring to the prior convictions of their witnesses during the trial.

Attorney Janet H. King, counsel for Crisostomo, opposed the motion. She asserted that the government has cited no other legal basis for excluding what they acknowledge is relevant and admis-

sible evidence. She also argued that the Commonwealth has not provided to the court or Crisostomo any specific information as to why the probative value of the unidentified convictions is outweighed by the prejudicial nature of the convictions.

Assistant attorney general James McAllister said the government intends to introduce testimony from several witnesses, including acquaintances of Crisostomo who may have criminal records.

McAllister said not all of these convictions are admissible under the applicable rules of evidence.

The prosecutor added that even mentioning inadmissible convictions at trial would be prejudicial, even if the prosecution readily objects and the court strikes the statements from the record.

He said if the defense counsel feels that prior conviction evidence is relevant and material at any point during the trial, the defense counsel shall inform the

court and the prosecutor outside the presence of the jury.

King argued, however, that the government makes this claim without offering any specifics as to how the mention of prior convictions of unidentified witnesses might prejudice the Commonwealth in its presentation of its case.

King said the government is asking the court to exclude evidence that the Commonwealth acknowledges is admissible and relevant without

giving the court or Crisostomo any way of evaluating the probative or prejudicial value of the evidence, independent of the government's assertion.

The trial of 40-year-old

Crisostomo will begin on Oct. 15, 2013.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents found Romero's body at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque on Feb. 7, 2012, two days before she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan.

# CPA and CUC end utility dispute

## »Board concurs with \$2.9M debt; OKs supplemental funds for unpaid utility bills

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

After months of dispute and negotiations, the Commonwealth Ports Authority finally agreed to pay the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. its outstanding utility bills that include disputed amounts from previous fiscal years.

The CPA board approved on Friday a supplemental budget that would cover payments for the utilities corporation.

CPA and CUC have been working on an offset arrangement on the utilities corporation's use of water wells located inside CPA facilities and property. It was earlier disclosed that CUC has 58 water wells inside CPA premises.

Since early this year, the two agencies have been negotiating the issue until they reconciled their records and came up with a settlement figure of \$2.9 million. Of this amount, \$1.3 million covers billing disputes in fiscal years 2011 and 2012.

According to CPA finance committee chair Frances Mafnas, the \$2.9 million is the "adjusted" number from CUC and accepted by the ports authority.

## Senate urges governor to concur with San Nicolas on \$190.8M power deal

Senators adopted on Thursday a House joint resolution urging Gov. Eloy S. Inos to concur with and support Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas' earlier opinion that former governor Benigno R. Fitial "had no authority" to enter into a \$190.8-million power purchase agreement with Saipan Development LLC.

Senators approved House Joint Resolution 18-6 months after the House adopted it.

The resolution basically reaffirms the Legislature's sentiment that what Fitial did was not within his authority to enter into an agreement on behalf of CUC and that CUC procurement rules were not followed, rendering the contract moot, its proponents said.

The resolution was introduced by five House members led by Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

The board approved Friday a \$1.393 million supplemental funding to pay the utilities expenses of the Saipan airport in fiscal years 2011 and 2012. This will be taken from the airport's gross revenue funds, which was certified available by the agency's new comptroller, Skye Aldan.

The \$1 million utility budget for the Saipan airport also fell short in fiscal year 2013, so the board also approved a supplemental amount of \$745,000, also to be sourced from the airport gross revenue funds.

"In fiscal year 2013, we have a shortfall of \$745,000, which the board also approved so we can pay our accounts to CUC, which is \$2.9 million," Mafnas explained.

Besides payment for utilities, \$269,000 of the supplemental budget will go to the removal and replacement of runway markings at the Rota airport and \$32,033 will fund the Rota airport's departure airlines office space extension.

Ports authority officials earlier disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that CUC and CPA have had no standing agreement on the use and access in premises

Fitial's signing of the \$190.8-million PPA with SDLLC was among the House's bases for impeaching the former governor on 18 charges of corruption, commission of felony, and neglect of duty.

Fitial resigned on Feb. 20, just days before the start of his impeachment trial at the Senate.

The former governor, on behalf of CUC, and former attorney general Edward Buckingham, now awaiting trial, signed the power deal with SDLLC on Aug. 3, 2012. That power purchase deal became known to lawmakers and most of the CNMI only after a copy was leaked to the media weeks later, drawing uproar from the community and government officials. A taxpayers' lawsuit was also filed against Fitial, Buckingham, CUC, and the Delaware-based SDLLC. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

where certain facilities like power plant and water catchments are located.

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# PSS eyes salary hike, more FTEs under new budget

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

If the \$33 million proposed budget for the Public School System is approved, among the priority areas that Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., wants to work on is the hiring of more teachers and the long-awaited salary increase for some of the system's support staff.

She disclosed that PSS has some employees who are paid just \$11,000 per year—an amount she described as very difficult to live on in the face of the increasing cost of living on island.

Sablan said the salary adjustment is only for some support staff employees and not for

classroom teachers and other positions whose wages are based on the board-approved compensation policy.

"We have some staff that are still at the low end of the salary scale, receiving \$11,000 a year and that is very, very difficult [to live on]," she told *Saipan Tribune* last week.

According to Sablan, the board suspended the compensation policy that was supposed to increase the wages of staffers in previous years due to budget constraints.

"I am thankful that both the House and Senate did entertain the proposed salary for



Sablan

our staff. So we're hopeful," she said.

The Budget Act for fiscal year 2014 has yet to be finalized. Under the Senate version that was rejected by the House of Representatives, PSS would get \$33 million this new fiscal year.

If this happens, Sablan said PSS may also see additional teachers. PSS lost about a hundred teachers and counselors in previous years as a result of budget cuts. PSS is asking the Legislature to restore all these positions by providing the system \$40 million, as what the board earlier recommended. Under the \$33 million proposal,

however, PSS will be able to restore some of the positions it lost.

Meantime, Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, during last week's meeting, expressed dismay over the delayed passage of the new budget. He said the operation of schools in the coming weeks rely on the new funding for public schools. Fiscal year 2013 ends on Sept. 30.

He urged the Legislature to empathize with students who will be in big and overcrowded classes due to the shortage of teachers. Besides this, he cited the continuing sacrifice of public school students this school year due to the four-hour-only use of air-conditioning units in classrooms.

## SCHOOLS

From Page 1

400 classroom teachers for kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that high students-to-teacher ratio are expected in large schools, including Marianas High School, Hopwood Junior High, Saipan Southern High, and the Garapan Elementary School, mainly due to the meager budget allocated for PSS.

Also beginning today, three schools will enforce multiage

classroom settings, combining different grade levels to maximize available resources such as teachers. These campuses are the Tinian, Gregorio T. Camacho, and Sinapalo elementary schools on Rota.

Also starting today is the reconfiguration of Kagman Elementary, which will now house kindergarten to fifth grade students. Its sixth graders will be transferred to the newly renamed Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

Education officials confirmed that the four-hour daily air-conditioning consumption will con-

tinue to be implemented across the board this school year. Teachers, however, are given the flexibility to determine the best time to use the AC's.

PSS associate commissioner Glenn Muna and acting pupil transportation manager Jack Diaz assured that there are more than enough fleet to transport students to and from their villages and schools.

PSS has 20 buses and 10 vans for special education students. For Saipan schools, PSS has 16 buses and three in reserve. These buses will be manned by 15 drivers.

Tinian and Rota public schools will each have two buses and one van for special education this year—a total of six fleet altogether for the two islands.

During last week's board meeting, PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh disclosed that there remains over \$1.6 million for school breakfast and lunches for public and private schools. The meal program is funded by a consolidated grant from the federal government.

All 19 campuses of PSS have passed the required sanitation and building inspections.

## PREGNANT

From Page 1

"Birth tourism" refers to travel for the purpose of giving birth to an automatic U.S. citizen child in the CNMI or any U.S. area.

Inos made it clear, however, that U.S. Customs and Border Protection or any agency cannot prevent any tourist from entering the CNMI because of pregnancy per se.

"CPB sent home about 20 in the last three to four months because of documentation problems. For example, they didn't have any affidavit of support with them or a proof that they have financial means of supporting themselves while they're here. Yes they were pregnant but, like I said, it's not their pregnancy that was the reason for sending them back but their documentation issues," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* on Sunday's Labor Day picnic at the Civic Center in Susupe.

Inos said if a tourist who is supposed to be in the CNMI for only up to 45 days, for example, gives birth at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. in a week or two of their supposed vacation, that raises questions not only for border control agents but also for the Commonwealth Health Center.

He said CHC has been having problems with tourists who give birth and then leave the hospital

without paying their bills. These bills can easily rack up to thousands of dollars.

"The hospital is thinking about requiring tourists to have a security deposit. If they do not have acceptable health insurance, their travel agent or whoever brought them here may also be made to pay for that security deposit," the governor said.

Some stakeholders have also been trying to propose to the CNMI government to ratchet up the cost of birth certificates from the current \$20 to as high as \$50,000 for tourists who are either from visa waiver countries or are paroled into the CNMI, to deter them from giving birth here.

The governor said this proposal has not reached his office yet.

However, he said people who are determined to engage in birth tourism may not necessarily be deterred by a \$50,000 birth certificate.

The constitutionality of this proposal, if it ever reaches his office, may also have to be reviewed, he said.

Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas separately said Sunday that he has not seen such a proposal and thus could not say whether it poses constitutional or legal issues.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) separately reiterated that denying entry to tourists simply because they are pregnant or suspected to be pregnant is "gender

discrimination."

He said it is not easy to stop birth tourism, yet it is prompting concern from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is risking the U.S. visa waiver program for CNMI-bound Chinese and Russian tourists.

Tourists—who are supposed to be in the CNMI for only up to 45 days—from other Asian countries have also been giving birth on Saipan for an automatic U.S. citizen child.

The United States is one of a few countries that observe *jus soli*, which grants automatic citizenship to children born within its territory, regardless of the parents' nationality or citizenship.

Inos said CBP has been "doing a good job" in detecting improper—or a lack of—documentation among tourists.

Just the same, the governor said he wants a stop to the so-called birth tourism in the CNMI but this can only be done through collaboration and vigilance among all stakeholders. Efforts include continued working relationship with airlines and travel agencies in their screening process.

Many airlines worldwide have policies against allowing women in advanced stages of pregnancy from boarding a plane.

Some tour agents and travel agencies have also been doing their part in ensuring the safety and security of tourists bound

for the CNMI.

In August, for example, a tour leader told *Saipan Tribune* in a personal interview that she asked a pregnant woman back in Shanghai, China, to consider not boarding a chartered Sichuan Airlines plane bound for Saipan for her own safety and to avoid being questioned by CBP agents at the Saipan airport.

That tourist didn't heed the tour agent's advice, and was questioned and prevented from entering Saipan by CBP agents. At the time, however, it was not clear whether the woman also had some documentation problems that prompted CBP to stop her, and not only because she was pregnant.

Birth tourism is believed to have increased since 2009, when DHS exercised its parole authority to allow Chinese and Russian tourists to visit the CNMI for up to 45 days without requiring them to obtain a U.S. visa.

However, tourists from other Asian countries that are also exempt from securing a U.S. visa waiver have also been giving birth in the CNMI as tourists.

Since November 2009, the federal government—through DHS and its component units such as CBP—has taken over control of CNMI borders.

The CNMI has seen growth in its tourism arrivals—and its overall economy—buoyed partly by an easier access to Chinese and Russian tourists.

## USP4GG outreach to the youth

The U.S. Pinoy for Good Government Marianas Chapter kicked off its outreach program for the youth last Saturday at the El Shaddai Church office in Susupe by educating young church members about the immigration reform bill and the proposed amendments to Section 2109 of the Senate Bill 744.

USP4GG chair Dr. Celia Lamkin said the event was a mini-forum on issues on immigration, citizenship, and the right to vote, among others.

She said some concerns raised by attendees are the separation from their parents who are foreign workers. The uncertainties in their parents' status if there is a five-year requirement in order to be eligible to apply for green cards were also touched on. Lamkin said others also talked about the situation of friends who have been adopted by a U.S.

citizen who are now undocumented and others in parole because they were not petitioned for a green card by their adoptive parents.

She said some of the youth also discussed stories of friends and classmates who were brought legally to the CNMI by their parents as dependents and are now undocumented.

Lamkin also stressed the importance of citizenship and their right to vote.

"Hence, I encouraged the youth who are 18 years old to register and to those who will become 18 years old next year before the deadline for the registration of voters for 2016 election."

For other Filipino youth who would like to be involved in community activities, call Lamkin at 288-1714 or email at [celia.lamkin@yahoo.com](mailto:celia.lamkin@yahoo.com). (*Saipan Tribune*)

## MANILA

From Page 1

lutely inimical to our national interest." The Chinese side asked that the conditions not be publicly disclosed, he said. They were discussed by Wang and Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario in Beijing on Wednesday.

Because of the conditions, Aquino decided to call off his publicly announced trip to the trade fair, Hernandez said, adding the Philippines will instead send a delegation headed by its trade secretary.

"The president stood firm in the defense of the country's national interest," Hernandez said.

Two Philippine officials told The Associated Press that China wanted Manila to withdraw a U.N. arbitration case over disputed islands in the South China Sea. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to reporters.

Chinese officials have also cited a new standoff between China and the Philippines over the Second Thomas Shoal, which is called Ayungin Shoal by Filipinos and Ren'ai Reef by the Chinese, the Philippine officials said.

China has asked Manila to remove a navy ship that ran aground on the shoal years ago, but the Philippine officials said the area was well within their territorial waters.

China was concerned that allowing Aquino to visit after the Philippines brought its territorial disputes to U.N. arbitration in January—which Beijing calls an "unfriendly act"—may not be welcomed by the Chinese public and media, the officials said.

Asked to comment Monday, Chinese Embassy spokesman

Zhang Hua did not react to their statements, but urged the Philippines to work with China "to overcome difficulties and disturbances and make real efforts to get the China-Philippine relationship" back on track.

He said China welcomes Southeast Asian delegations, including from the Philippines, to the trade expo.

The Philippines is this year's "country of honor" at the trade fair, which takes place in China every year to highlight trade exchanges between Beijing and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The prime ministers of China allies Cambodia and Laos, along with those of Thailand and Vietnam have confirmed their attendance to the trade expo, which was first held in 2004 to promote the China-ASEAN free-trade area. Myanmar, another China ally, will send its vice president, Philippine officials said.

The Philippines and China have been embroiled in increasingly antagonistic territorial disputes. Last year, China seized a shoal near the northwestern coast of the Philippines, and this year it demanded that the Philippine navy withdraw from Second Thomas Shoal farther south.

The Philippines incensed China in January by challenging Beijing's massive territorial claims in the strategic South China Sea before a U.N. arbitration tribunal, which has convened to look into Manila's complaint despite China's stance to ignore the move.

China claims virtually the entire South China Sea and its island groups on historical grounds. The Philippines, Vietnam, Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan have rejected that, sparking fears the disputes might spark Asia's next major armed conflict.



# Seaport parking lot incurs continued operating losses

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority disclosed that it continues to incur huge operating losses at its seaport parking lot, with a monthly deficit of over \$2,000.

CPA comptroller Skye Aldan and board finance committee chair Frances Mafnas reported this to the board Friday, pointing out that if current situation continues, the ports authority will sustain greater losses in coming months.

Saipan Tribune learned that CPA contracted out the operation of the parking lot to POI Aviation, paying it \$32,709 a year or roughly \$3,200 each month. In return, POI Aviation remits the revenue from the parking lot to CPA each month. However, revenue generated from the parking fees amounts to only \$900 to \$1,000 each month this fiscal year.

» **Board OKs issuance of 90-day termination of contract with POI Aviation**

As of July 31 this year, board officials disclosed that CPA had an actual collection of only \$14,098 from the seaport parking lot. This is an \$18,611 deficit based on the annual contract of \$32,709 for the project. The actual parking collections monthly are: October 2012, \$2,916; November, \$1,422; December, \$1,106; January, \$2,416; February, \$1,033; March, \$1,157; April, \$821;

May, \$989; June, \$915; and July, \$1,323. It was also learned that fiscal year 2013's operating loss from the parking project is much higher compared to fiscal year 2012 when the shortfall was only at \$10,085. In fiscal year 2012, the contract for the project was at \$39,251, compared to actual yearly revenue of only \$29,166. In fiscal year 2011, the seaport parking also posted a loss amounting to \$15,679. POI Aviation's contract at that time was at \$39,251 versus actual

revenue of just \$23,572. In fiscal year 2010, operating loss was at \$14,548 after CPA only collected \$24,703. As project contractor, POI Aviation operates the parking booth inside the seaport where it issues parking IDs for corresponding fees. In return, CPA pays the company \$3,200 each month for this service. During Friday's meeting, board members expressed concern about the continued operating losses being incurred by this project. Board seaport facilities chair Benigno Sablan said that CPA cannot afford to sustain these losses.

agency and we cannot afford not to collect or generate [revenues]," said Sablan, adding that it is best for now to open the parking space than to continue incurring deficits. According to CPA executive director MaryAnn Liza-ma, once the parking space is opened up, taxicabs and buses that use the facility will continue to pay through their permits issued by the ports authority. For guests, CPA will not charge parking fees but will monitor their entry and exit. A policy on parking will also be implemented, including towing a vehicle at the owner's expense if found violating the regulations. The board unanimously voted to issue a 90-day termination notice to POI Aviation's contract that will stop its services at the parking lot.

# US govt seeks return of \$1.2M FICA taxes that IRS 'erroneously paid'

The U.S. government has asked the federal court to order the defunct Concorde Garment Manufacturing Corp. to return \$1.2 million to the Internal Revenue Service, now that the court has ruled in favor of the IRS on the issue of Federal Insurance Contributions Act taxes.

Landon Yost, trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to enter a judgment in favor of the U.S. government and against Concorde in the sum of \$1,181,265.71 plus interest from Dec. 28, 2009.

Yost said that now that the court has ruled against Concorde's arguments for why FICA taxes did not apply to its employees, it is clear that the company's claim for refund lacked a legal basis and that the refund given to Concorde was erroneous and should be re-

turned to the IRS. Court records showed that Concorde filed Forms 941 "Employer's Quarterly Tax Returns," for the quarters ending March 31, 2006, June 30, 2006, Sept. 30, 2006, and Dec. 31, 2006. Concorde paid the amount due for the FICA taxes for those quarters. Concorde then filed a Form 843 "Claim for Refund," requesting a refund for those quarters, asserting that its temporary contract workers were not subject to FICA taxes and that it erroneously paid the payroll taxes for those employees. On Dec. 28, 2009, IRS issued a refund to Concorde amounting to \$1,181,265.71.

In July 2011, Concorde and over 4,000 Chinese nationals formerly employed by Concorde and its affiliated companies sued the U.S. government to recover wrongfully assessed

FICA taxes that were erroneously paid to the U.S. for tax years 2004 to 2007. The plaintiffs, through counsels Steven P. Pixley and Colin Thompson, asserted that the imposition of FICA tax liability on employees and collected from plaintiffs should be refunded. On Dec. 17, 2011, the U.S. government filed a counterclaim for the recovery of this refund, arguing that Concorde's claim was without legal basis and should not have been allowed. In its answer to the counterclaim, Concorde asserted that the counterclaim was barred by the applicable statute of limitations. In the U.S. government's motion for entry of judgment filed last week, Yost stated that the court has now ruled that FICA taxes did apply to Concorde's employees for the tax periods at issue, effectively holding that

Concorde's claim for refund lacks legal merit. Yost said the counterclaim was timely as under the law, a suit for recovery of an erroneous refund must be filed within two years after the making of such a refund (or within five years if the refund was induced by fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact). Yost said the refund was made on Dec. 28, 2009, and the U.S. filed its counterclaim on Dec. 17, 2011. "It was therefore within two years of the issuance of the erroneous refund," he said. Moreover, Yost said, the statute of limitations was extended in this case pursuant to the law, which provides that if a hearing is requested, the running of any period of limitations is suspended for the period during which the hearing and appeals are pending. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

# Plan to shrink Legislature draws support from Chamber

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero's (Cov-Saipan) plan to craft an initiative reducing the number of lawmakers from 29 to 18 has gotten support from the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, which has long advocated for a leaner Legislature.

Chamber president Alex Sablan and board of directors said during the weekend that they unanimously support the drafting of a legislative initiative that will pose the question of a reduced number of lawmakers before CNMI voters.

Leon Guerrero said on Sunday that he may pre-file the initiative this week. But he said the number of lawmakers proposed may still change.

"The Saipan Chamber of Commerce has repeatedly called for government to reduce its operations when there would be no loss of services provided to the people of the Commonwealth. It's nothing any business in the CNMI hasn't already done. The plan being proposed by Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero, a member of the ad hoc committee to reduce government expenditures, is exactly what the private sector believes

is the right thing to do," Sablan said in a statement. Leon Guerrero's planned initiative comes a little over a year after a similar proposal was defeated in the 17th House of Representatives. The freshman lawmaker said he hopes that this time around, there would be enough support from members of the 18th House and Senate, to give voters a chance to decide whether or not they want a smaller Legislature. The Chamber president said Leon Guerrero's "announcement amounts to an announcement, as did a similar initiative announced last year." "But should this initiative be placed before the voters, not only would we witness real responsibility by our elected leaders, in turn we should witness another resounding message from our CNMI voters that they believe this is a government by the people for the people. There's no doubt in our minds this initiative would pass if placed on a ballot," Sablan said. Leon Guerrero's planned initiative seeks to amend the NMI Constitution's Article 2 sections. The Chamber board of directors said it acknowledges other

lawmakers' concerns that the initiative needs to respect basic precepts or rules reflective of the voting populace as it affects representation, yet states the real issue at hand "is a government that cannot meet its financial obligations in a recessive economy." Sablan asked lawmakers to figure out how to best put the question before the voters and act on it. "We all know it needs to be done. The Legislature has sent this same message before, that it understands the necessity, and if it again does not come before the voters this time, we will further lose respect for a government we so badly want to represent the will of the people," he said. Leon Guerrero's plan is to ask voters whether they want to cut the number of lawmakers from 29 to 18, a longer term for House members from two to four, and islandwide voting for House members, to help shrink the CNMI government's size. "The CNMI has been talking about reducing the size of government for a long time. It has to start somewhere," he told *Saipan Tribune*. The CNMI's population has gone down to 53,883 as of 2010,

from 69,221 in 2000 based on the latest U.S. Census. Based on Leon Guerrero's initial plan, the initiative would ask voters whether they want to reduce the number of senators from nine to six—or from three senators each for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to only two on each island. He also plans to ask voters whether they want to reduce the number of House-Saipan members from 18 to 10. He seeks to maintain one House member each for Rota and Tinian. Former representative Joseph Palacios, author of the defeated initiative in the 17th Legislature, welcomes Leon Guerrero's plan to propose a similar initiative. He, however, said it may not be a good idea to put a limit of two representatives for each of the five Saipan precincts if the goal is to have an islandwide voting for House members on Saipan. "I agree with a four-year term as opposed to a two-year term for House members because it is too costly to hold elections every two years. Plus if the House members are not doing a good job, people can remove them in the middle of their term," Palacios said at the Labor Day festivities on Sunday.

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Case Number: 120244CV Kristy Diaz

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**BANK OF GUAM,** } **Civil Action**  
Plaintiff, } **No. 12-0244**  
vs. }  
**JOSE F. TUDELA and**  
**FRANCES C. TUDELA,** } **Defendants.**

**NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 16th day of January, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **9th day of September, 2013 at 10 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 045 A 135, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 045 A 004, the original of which was recorded 26 APR 1990 as Document No. 90-1672 at the Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**

1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sale with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.

2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@ptcicom.com.

3. **Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 2nd day of August, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 2347859 • Fax: (670) 2345749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**BANK OF GUAM,** } **Civil Action**  
Plaintiff, } **No. 12-0077**  
vs. } **NOTICE OF**  
**RAYMOND H. SAKISAT,** } **AUCTION**  
Defendant. } **and**  
} **JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 31st day of January, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **9th day of September, 2013 at 10 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 345 R 243, situated in Sinapalo I. Rota, containing an area of 906 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 05, the original of which was recorded 14 Mar 84 as Document No. 84-0751 at the Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.**

1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:  
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.  
b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and  
c) to reject any and all bids.

2. **Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@ptcicom.com.

3. **Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

4. **Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 2nd day of August, 2013.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



## IN LAWSUIT VS DPL, FINANCE OVER COP LAND LEASE

# Judge dismisses all claims except one

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has dismissed all claims except one in a lawsuit filed by an investor and a taxpayer against the departments of Public Lands and Finance over the lease of public land where Coral Ocean Point Resort sits.

Govendo noted that portions of the briefs filed by plaintiffs Pacific Investment and Development Corp. and Vicente O. Litulumar are unintelligible, poorly written, and “falls far below the level of competency that this court expects from litigants.”

PIDC and Litulumar were originally represented by attorney Ramon K. Quichocho. Attorney Robert Myers later took over as counsel for the plaintiffs.

Govendo dismissed the plaintiffs’ claims for breach of fiduciary duty, breach of trust, injunction, and fraud.

The judge allowed plaintiffs to amend their complaint only as to counts 1 and 2 for breach of fiduciary duty.

The plaintiffs were given a last chance to file their second amended complaint no later than Sept. 27, 2013.

Govendo said he will allow plaintiffs to amend counts 1 and 2 because this case is a matter of public concern.

“However, the public also has a strong interest in minimizing the cost of litigation and promptly resolving this matter,” he said, adding that plaintiffs will not be given a third chance to plead these causes of action.

Govendo, however, denied DPL and Finance’s motion to

dismiss the plaintiffs’ claim for declaratory judgment.

PIDC, through counsel Quichocho, sued DPL and Finance in November 2012 over the alleged waiver of tax obligations of E-Land Group of Korea.

PIDC and Litulumar, through new counsel Myers, sought an injunction against DPL and Finance, asserting that they will be irreparably harmed by the agencies’ alleged pursuit of a sole-source lease with Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resorts Inc., and E-Land Park Limited.

On Aug. 8, 2013, Govendo denied plaintiffs’ request to issue a preliminary injunction to stop DPL and Finance from pursuing a contract to lease the public land where Coral Ocean Point is located.

Govendo heard the motion to

dismiss on June 11, 2013. Myers appeared for PIDC and Litulumar, while assistant attorney general Peter Prestley served as counsel for DPL and Finance.

PIDC and Litulumar allege that DPL and Finance improperly waived past due taxes and did not attempt to maximize the value of Coral Ocean Point. DPL and Finance moved to dismiss for failure to allege a fiduciary relationship between the plaintiffs and defendants.

In his ruling, Govendo said the plaintiffs have concluded, without any factual allegations, that DPL and Finance owe the plaintiffs a duty of fiduciary care. He said the plaintiffs have not sufficiently alleged a fiduciary relationship between them.

Govendo also determined that the plaintiffs have not al-

leged any particularized harm, nor have they invoked authority that would allow them to pursue a breach of trust action in the absence of particularized harm.

“Instead, plaintiffs admit that the injuries complained of are common to all people of Northern Marianas descent,” said Govendo, who ruled that Litulumar lacks standing.

Govendo also dismissed the plaintiffs’ request for an injunction, saying the plaintiffs may be entitled to a permanent injunction if they prevail in a taxpayer lawsuit.

“To put it another way, the taxpayer lawsuit itself is the cause of action; an injunction is a form of relief that may be available to a prevailing party in a taxpayer suit,” Govendo said.

Govendo said the declaratory judgment statute grants the court the authority to issue an injunction if it is necessary or proper relief, but there is no language in the statute authorizing a cause of action labeled injunction.

On the claim of fraud, Govendo said that Litulumar’s damages are not particularized. At the same time, he criticized the plaintiffs’ poorly written briefs. He said he does not have the resources to “decrypt poorly written briefs.” Instead, he said he will simply “disregard writing that defies understanding.”

On the declaratory judgment claim, DPL and Finance assert that plaintiffs do not have standing to bring this cause of action because they cannot demonstrate particularized harm.

In denying the motion, Govendo said the Commonwealth’s declaratory judgment statute does not require a plaintiff to allege particularized injury.

In this case, Govendo said, the Commonwealth has abrogated the usual requirement that a plaintiff must allege an injury to have standing.

“Thus plaintiffs do not have to allege damages or any particularized injury to pursue an action for declaratory judgment,” he said.

## Man drives alleged stolen van, engages cops in car chase

A man who drove an allegedly stolen Toyota Sienna van engaged several police vehicles in a car chase on Beach Road before hitting a police vehicle near Hard Rock Café in Garapan yesterday morning.

Department of Public Safety

spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. said the driver of the van suffered minor injuries and was arrested.

DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that the van was indeed reported stolen.

Deleon Guerrero said a traffic police officer was along Monsignor Guerrero Road in As Terlaje sometime early yesterday morning when he spotted the stolen van.

The officer turned around and followed the van. The driver

was not driving fast at the time, but he sped off upon reaching the As Lito Road.

The commissioner said a pursuit ensued on Beach Road until the van rammed into a police vehicle near Hard Rock Café. The patrol car was

among the police cars involved in the chase.

After hitting the police car, the suspect turned the van around to try to flee again, but was unable to do so, Deleon Guerrero said.

Deleon Guerrero said the officer was not injured.

He has no information yet as

to how many police cars were involved in the chase.

The commissioner and Blas said they have no information yet on who owns the van and whether the driver was intoxicated or not.

DPS is expected to release more details today, Tuesday. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Joeten Foundation signs on as Green Gala sponsor

Joeten Charitable Foundation recently signed on as a grand sponsor of the upcoming Green Gala sponsored by the Marianas Islands Nature Alliance.

The Green Gala, which will be held this Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa’s Hibiscus Hall, aims to raise critical funds to help MINA, a nonprofit organization, continue its work in protecting the environment.

“We’re really grateful to the Joeten Charitable Foundation for its generosity and support in helping to make the Green

Gala event a great success,” said Frankie Eliptico, MINA board chairperson. “We’re still encouraging many other companies to also be a part of this special event by becoming a sponsor, donating items for the silent auction, or by purchasing tickets.”

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp,

the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project, which has placed recycle bins at all the major beaches on the island.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI’s fragile environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community’s participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to great entertainment, dinner, and a variety of beverages, The Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA’s projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promises a memorable evening.

“It’s going to be a great night for the environment,” said Fran Castro, MINA board member, who is also leading the planning for the Gala activities.

The other grand sponsors of the event include the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and Power 99. Major sponsors include IT&E,

Docomo, DFS Galleria, Bank of Guam, and Bridge Capital. Other event donors include TakeCare Insurance, Triple J Enterprises, 360 Revolving Restaurant, SUP SPN, Delta Airlines, Delta Management, JEM Kagman Mobil, *Marianas Variety*, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Moylan’s, Jose Quan, Pacific

Islands Club, Burger & Comer, Mark James, Handbags Etc., Iridescent, Pena House, Blue Continent Communications (KKMP), 670 Rock Steady, Angil Design, Blossom’s, Dial Rent to Own, Joeten Superstore, Greg Elliott Artwork, Joe Weaver artwork, and Kate Fuller Fusion Design. **(PR)**

## Pena House, Iridescent offer 15-pct. discount to Green Gala ticket holders

Pena House and Iridescent, retailers of the latest fashion on Saipan, are offering ticket holders for the upcoming Green Gala a discount on all clothing and shoes.

The Green Gala, which will be held this Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa’s Hibiscus Hall, aims to raise critical funds to help the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, a nonprofit organization, continue its work in protecting the environment.

Those who have purchased tickets for the Gala can take advantage of a 15-percent discount on all clothing and shoes at Pena House or Iridescent when they show their ticket to the cashier.

Guests for the Green Gala are encouraged to be in their cocktail attire for the event.

“We are really thankful to Pena House and Iridescent for their support and for offering this discount to those who have purchased Green Gala tickets,” said Frankie Eliptico, MINA board chairperson. “They have also agreed to donate gift certificates that we can offer as

raffle prizes at the event.”

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has successfully implemented many projects, including the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project, which has placed recycle bins at all the major beaches on the island.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI’s fragile environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community’s participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and by generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

Tickets for the Green Gala event can be purchased online at minapacific.org or by calling the MINA office at 233-REEF (7333). To become a sponsor of the event, please contact Sam Sablan, MINA executive director, at 233-7333 or email [sablansam@gmail.com](mailto:sablansam@gmail.com). **(MINA)**



### BEST LABOR DAY TENT

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), left, and House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), proudly show off the Legislature’s beautifully decorated tent that bagged first place in the tent decorating contest at the 2013 Labor Day festivities in Susupe on Sunday. The Legislature’s tent was decorated by an all-men team, giving their best rendition of the Labor Day theme, “One heart, one family, one CNMI.”

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



# Economic pain measurement for Chamorros, Carolinians

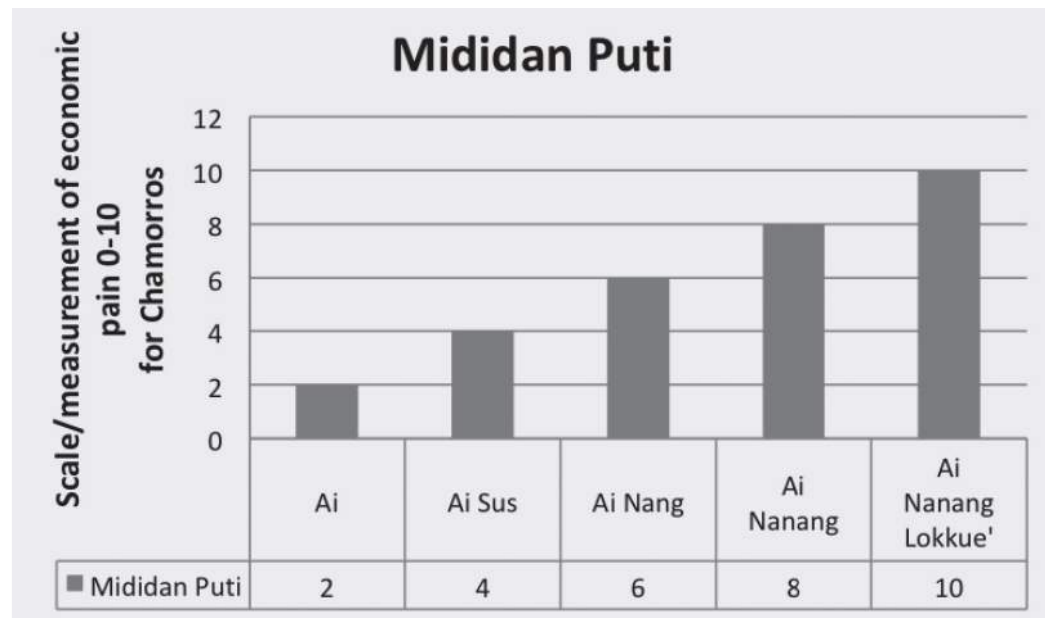
The Chamorro radio talk show *Marianas Agupa* released Thursday its scale/measurement of economic pain model, called "Mididan Puti" in the Chamorro language, for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This scale/measurement of economic pain is the product of many people on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota who have been actively participating in the talk show since 2009 on Magic 100.3 FM from 9am to 11am on Saturdays.

According to Glenn H. Manglona, host of *Marianas Agupa*, the "Mididan Puti" was coined by Thomas D. Mendiola, commonly known as "Guelu Fadang," who is the radio correspondent from Rota. During his weekly radio reports from Rota since 2009, he discussed issues of economic matters that directly affect the people of Rota, including not being able to buy the most essential things in life for survival like rice, milk, and medicine because of air and ocean transportation delays and the cost of utilities and gasoline. Discussions centered on the way people have endured the hard living condition for over 50 years. From not being able to find a job to being terminated from a job due to wrong political affiliation, the list goes on and on.

During on-air and personal conversations with Guelu Fadang, we found out that this can be something big and useful yet entertaining for our people if only we can come up with the elements that constitute a scale or measurement of the economic suffering our people are going through today. But without knowing where this will lead us, we decided to continue calling it the "Scale/Measurement of Economic Pain," or "Mididan Puti" in Chamorro.

In the latter part of 2010, the late Leon Taisacan contributed the word "Ai Nanang Lokkue," to describe his economic pain if he were to lose



his pension if the NMI Retirement Fund goes belly up. Former senator David Cing reaffirmed Taisacan's description of the Fund's doom on *Marianas Agupa*.

During one of *Marianas Agupa*'s programs in 2011, former Rota mayor Joseph Inos commented on Taisacan's assertion about "Ai Nanang Lokkue'" on the scale/measurement of economic pain, that there must be categories preceding the "Ai Nanang Lokkue,'" and that is "those who are suffering less economic pain should be properly labeled as "Ai Nang" and "Ai Nanang" respectively.

In the early part of 2012, program host Manglona committed to completing this scale of measurement. And so he began to review the audio recordings of *Marianas Agupa* to see if he could connect the dots on the scale/measurement of economic pain. His "Eureka" moment came when he found the missing links: "Ai" and "Ai Sus" should be placed as the lowest level in the measurement of economic pain.

But this was not complete until we listened and integrated ideas presented on *Marianas Agupa* by many of our listening audience in

order to properly label the scale/measurement of economic pain.

And so the show continues 'til today and many of our fine local people who participated during the talk show program, including John Del Rosario Jr., have made a huge contribution to the elements associated with their life experiences and living hardships and in determining the scale/measurement of economic pain in "Chamorro."

We thank you all for sharing the information and description of your life experiences that constitute the preliminary model of Scale/Measurement of Economic Pain—"Mididan Puti" in Chamorro.

See the definition of the Scale/Measurement of Economic Pain below and the associated graph:

**Factors in determining the Scale/Measurement of Economic Pain—"Mididan Puti" in Chamorro**

- 2010 Census Population of Indigenous Chamorros and Carolinians at 15,363.

- 44 percent of families in the CNMI were below the U.S. poverty level in 2009.

- 1,314 Chamorro and Caro-

linian families were below the poverty level in 2009.

- The mean family income in 2009: \$34,580.

- CUC rates including water and power rates.

- The consumer price index in the CNMI.

- The Gross Domestic Product of the CNMI.

Case study: The scale/measurement of economic pain below is for a person with a family of four living in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, with a mean family income of \$34,580.

**Ai:** This scale at level 2 indicates a person is living paycheck to paycheck with no savings and is barely making ends meet due to the high cost of housing, electricity, water, fuel, food, health insurance, telephone/cell phone/Internet and car payments.

**Ai Sus: Level 4** indicates a person who missed making payment for his/her monthly telephone/cell phone bill and got disconnected. Asking money from a family member or a relative.

**Ai Nang: Level 6** indicates a person who got his phone reconnected but this time, his/

her electricity got disconnected. Cancelled his/her health insurance. Puts only \$10 gasoline in his/her car every two days.

**Ai Nanang: Level 8** indicates a person who got both his/her home/cell phone and electricity disconnected at the same time. Missed his/her car payments for more than a month. Lost his/her job in the government for excessive absenteeism. Seeking assistance from his/her elected precinct representatives and senators.

**Ai Nanang Lokkue': Level 10** indicates that a person got his phone, electricity and water disconnected. But this time, missed the car payments for two consecutive months. Bank letter for auto repossession is received. Lost his/her job. Retirement pension is reduced. His/her party lost the election but pretended to be part of the winning party by showing up at winning party's camp immediately after the election. (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Chamber meeting on Sept. 4

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host its September monthly general membership luncheon meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan this Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013, from 11:30am to 1pm. Addressing the Chamber membership will be keynote speaker Gerry Perez, chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce. Also speaking will be acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher. Luncheon at the Fiesta Resort and Spa is \$20 for Chamber members, and \$30 for guests and the general public. (PR)

### Registration for ukulele class extended to Sept. 11

The registration for the 2013 Summer Ukulele Lessons at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has been extended to Sept. 11. The ukulele class, which is from Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, is open to children 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours. It costs \$50 and will be held from 4pm to 5:30pm every Thursday. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis and students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets. Those without instruments can also borrow one from the library, free of charge. For more information about the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, fax 235-7550. (PR)

### Council accepting noms for Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Governor's Humanities Awards. This event recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at [www.nmihumanities.org](http://www.nmihumanities.org). Nominations may be made by any member of the public and are due no later than 4:30pm on Friday, Oct. 11.

Awards will be presented during a special ceremony to be held in late October. For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785. (PR)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP NO.: RFP13-DEQ-164**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2013 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**"TO CONDUCT SURVEY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY OF REGULATED FACILITIES HANDLING AND STORING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **AUGUST 27, 2013** AT THE DEQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAIN CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp) DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **SEPTEMBER 13, 2013 AT 10:00 A.M.** IN THE DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp) NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAUIMAN  
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP13-JUDICIARY-161**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE CNMI JUDICIARY BRANCH- GUMA HUSTISIA/IMWAL AWEWE/HOUSE OF JUSTICE"**

THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON **SEPTEMBER 13, 2013 AT 10:30 A.M. LOCAL TIME** AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA CONFERENCE ROOM. ANY QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES SHALL BE DIRECTED TO MR. GERALD WEAVER, BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT AT (670) 236-9800 OR BY FAX TO (670) 236-9702 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE PROPOSER.

/S/ CHIEF JUSTICE ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO  
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP NO.: RFP13-DEQ-167**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2013 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**"TO CONDUCT ASTM PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT FOR SOIL AND GROUNDWATER OF A CONTAMINATED BROWNFIELDS SITE ON SAIPAN FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **AUGUST 27, 2013** AT THE DEQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAIN CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp) DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **SEPTEMBER 13, 2013 AT 1:00 P.M.** IN THE DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp) NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAUIMAN  
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB13-DPW-165**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SIX (6) BUSHCUTTERS, TWO (2) CHAINSAWS AND ONE (1) PRESSURE WASHER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Deadline for submission of application to [hrd@cosmosdistributing.com](mailto:hrd@cosmosdistributing.com) is on Sept 15, 2013.



## THE FINAL FRONTIER:

## Sexual, reproductive health in the Pacific

**SUVA, Fiji**—The rights of groups at risk of poor sexual health will be a key part of the development of the Pacific Sexual Health and Wellbeing Shared Agenda 2014–2018, an enhanced approach to improving the sexual health and wellbeing of men and women in the Pacific.

A two-day consultation with civil society organizations working directly with at risk groups such as women, youth, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people was held last week at the Holiday Inn in Suva, Fiji.

“Sexual and reproductive health and rights are the final frontier. For us in the Pacific, it is one of the main concerns for women, youth and LGBTI groups,” said Kris Prasad from Drodrolagi Movement, a net-

work advocating for LGBTI rights in Fiji.

Populations typically at high risk of poor sexual health and wellbeing include marginalized groups such as sex workers and their clients and partners, and victims of assault and intimate partner violence.

“Often these populations are stigmatized and are not always able to easily access health services,” said Michelle O’Connor, PRSIP Coordination and Liaison Officer with SPC’s Public Health Division.

“To provide effective services to all Pacific Islanders, we must better understand those at greater risk of poor sexual health and wellbeing and what their needs are. We plan to discuss this during the two-day consultation,” said O’Connor.

SPC is leading the devel-

opment of the Pacific Sexual Health and Wellbeing Shared Agenda 2014–2018. The agenda, currently in development, will replace the Pacific Regional Strategy for HIV and other STIs, which ends this year.

“The Shared Agenda sets out the vision for addressing sexual health in the region, as identified by 22 Pacific Island governments, regional partners, civil society organizations and at risk groups,” said O’Connor.

“It examines how best to deliver comprehensive sexual health services and programs to address interrelated sexual health issues, such as STIs and HIV, unintended pregnancy, gender-based violence and the promotion of positive, healthy relationships.”

“I am thankful to be a part of the Shared Agenda because

it’s everybody’s work. We’re talking about people’s lives. It’s a positive vibe. We’re looking into the future with optimism,” said Vani Dulaki, executive director of Fiji Network Plus.

A research report on sex work and HIV/STI prevention in the Pacific region was launched on the first day of the consultation, Aug. 29. (*Secretariat of the Pacific Community*)

## Guam gets \$729K for Homeland Security, Judiciary

**Washington, D.C.**—A total of \$729,300 in federal grants was recently awarded to the Guam Homeland Security Office of Civil Defense and the Guam Judiciary.

The Guam Homeland Security Office of Civil Defense was awarded \$529,300 through the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration. This grant is designed to assist states, in collaboration with regional, tribal and local jurisdictions, to perform activities related to planning for the establishment of a nationwide public safety broadband network.

The Guam Judiciary was awarded \$200,000 through the U.S. Department of Justice. This grant provides financial and technical assistance to states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop and implement drug treatment courts that integrate evidence-based substance abuse treatment, mandatory drug testing, sanctions and incentives, and transitional services in a judicially supervised court setting with jurisdiction over nonviolent, substance-abusing offenders.

“The majority of the funds received will be used to assist Guam in planning for the establishment of a nationwide public safety broadband network,” said Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) “The development of this broadband network will help advance public safety communications on Guam and throughout the country and support first responders’ needs.

“Additionally, the funds awarded to the Judiciary will be used to strengthen our local drug court by establishing new services for target populations not currently being served, enhancing existing court operations, and improving the quality of offender services. The grants received from the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Justice are examples of how the Government of Guam can benefit from federal assistance, and I look forward to these funds being implemented in our community.” (*PR*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Vanuatu’s MSM community show off their new t-shirts, provided to participants after a Wan Smolbag focus group discussion on the organization’s popular Love Patrol TV series. Men who have sex with men are one of many groups at risk of poor sexual health and wellbeing.

## Guam filmfest names Grand Jury Award nominees

**HAGATÑA, Guam**—The Guam International Film Festival has announced the official nominees of the 2013 Grand Jury Awards.

The awards, which will be presented during GIFF’s award ceremonies, serves to promote the achievements of outstanding international and Pacific Asian artists. These films were chosen as finalists for this prestigious

recognition from among the nearly 300 submissions from over 30 countries worldwide.

“We are thrilled to include these films into the festival’s programming lineup and in addition, feel that they are deserving of the nominations,” said GIFF program director Kel Muna.

The judging of the films will be made by the festival grand jury that is composed of film in-

dusty professionals.

Also showcased in the awards spotlight will be the nominees for Best Made in the Marianas Award, Achievement in Acting Award, Audience Choice Award, and Best of Festival.

For more information including complete film listing and showtimes, visit the festival website at [www.guamfilmfestival.org](http://www.guamfilmfestival.org). (*GIFF*)

## AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

The following are the Guam International Film Festival 2013 Grand Jury Award nominees:

**Best narrative feature:**

■ *Breakaway* (ALAGWA) (Philippines, Dir: Ian Lorenos)

■ *Girl Shaped Love Drug* (United Kingdom, Dir: Simon Powell)

■ *Jiseul* (Korea, Dir: O Muel)

**Best narrative short:**

■ *Hsu Ji Behind the Screen* (France, Dir: Thomas Rio)

■ *Hatch* (Austria, Dir: Christoph Kuschnig)

■ *Mo Ikkai* (Japan, Dir: Atsuko Hirayanagi)

**Best documentary feature:**

■ *A2-B-C* (Japan, Dir: Ian Thomas Ash)

■ *Crocodile In The Yangtze* (China, Dir: Porter Erisman)

■ *The Illness and the Odyssey* (Guam, US, Dir: Berry Minot)

**Best documentary short:**

■ *Straight With You* (Netherlands, Dir: Daan Bol)

■ *Brainerd* (US, Dirs: Josiah Bultema and Kyle Gilbertson)

■ *Cavedigger* (US, Dir: Jeffrey Karoff)

**Best Made in the Marianas:**

■ *The Illness and the Od-*

*yssey* (Guam, US, Dir: Berry Minot)

■ *Living Along the Fence-line* (Guam, US, Brazil, Japan, Philippines, Dir: Lina Hoshino)

■ *Pizza Boy* (Guam, Dir: Niel Romero and Justin Baldovino)

■ *Fiction* (Guam, Dir: James Davis)

■ *In Your Head* (Japan, Dir: Kevin Foster and Steven LeFever)

**Achievement in acting:**

■ Jericho Rosales (*Breakaway*)

■ Jeong-Min Hwang (*She*)

■ Sacha Dhawan (*Girl Shaped Love Drug*)

■ Yune Kim (*Fiction*)

## Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

September 3, 2005

**ARC: 114 homes damaged**

At least 114 houses were either completely destroyed or sustained major and minor damage due to the onslaught of Typhoon Nabi, the American Red Cross-CNMI chapter reported yesterday. Some 70 to 80 percent of Saipan’s agricultural crops were also destroyed, according to a Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service consultant. ARC executive director John Hirsh said 37 homes have become unlivable because they were either completely destroyed or severely damaged. Most of the damaged houses are on Saipan. Hirsh reported this after dispatching several teams of volunteers who conducted damage assessments on Saipan, Tinian and Rota starting Thursday morning.

**Nabi emergency ‘unwarranted’—Fitial**

House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial is unconvinced that there is a need to declare a state of emergency due to Typhoon Nabi, which, he said, largely spared the Northern Marianas from major damage. He accused the administration of using the typhoon as an excuse to tap funds for “non-emergency” purposes. “We’re thankful that the typhoon didn’t hit us very hard. To declare a state of emergency because of it is, in my opinion, nonsense. Everything is back to normal. Schools have resumed classes. There’s no need for emergency,” said Fitial in an interview yesterday.

September 3, 2006

**‘Power crisis a reality check’**

If anything, the increased cost of electricity in the CNMI is making people aware of the need to conserve energy, according to participants of last Thursday’s Marianas Roundtable - Focus on Energy conference. “Our mentality has always been: We pay cheap power. Nobody cared about conserving. Now that the power rates went up, it’s unbelievable. I got my bill. I talked to everybody about theirs and they don’t understand how come it’s that high. I also try to figure it out myself. But I think it’s a reality check. It’s realizing, ‘Oh, no, its true. How can I afford this?’ Now, we have to conserve. We have to readjust our lifestyle,” said Saipan congressman Absalon Waki Jr.

**Saipan Ice to sell fluoridated water**

Here’s wonderful news for all parents and children of Saipan: Saipan Ice & Water Co. will begin distributing fluoridated bottled water during the first few weeks of September. Over 60 percent of the public water supplies on the U.S. mainland are fluoridated, and many have been for some 61 years. The results of this therapeutic treatment of the water, using only one part of fluoride to one million parts of water, has been a drastic reduction of cavities for children. Saipan Ice said it has invested in the necessary equipment to place the fluoride into the water and to ensure that the ratio will be constant.

September 3, 2007

**NWA: Newest plane proof of commitment to CNMI**

Northwest Airlines yesterday started using a smaller, but more comfortable aircraft for its flights between Tokyo and Saipan. The Airbus 330 wide-body aircraft landed at the Saipan International Airport at 2:53pm, earlier than its 3:10pm schedule. Some 300 passengers were on board. With 298 seats, the new aircraft is a downsize from the 430-seat Boeing 747 planes that Northwest previously used for the service. But what the destination lost in terms of quantity, it gained in terms of quality, Northwest insists.

**House calls on CUC to junk privatization plan**

The House of Representatives wants the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to junk its privatization plan and instead hire a contractor to manage the power utility. The Lower House made this call in a resolution adopted on Friday. House Joint Resolution 15-36 will go to the Senate for concurrence. According to the lawmakers, CUC should terminate the privatization of CUC’s power operations. CUC should consider a performance management contract as an alternative, they said. The Office of the Public Auditor has ordered CUC’s request for proposals cancelled after finding that it was against CNMI procurement regulations. But the Fitial administration, which has supported the privatization plan, has said CUC will comply with the regulations and proceed with the process.



# Consular corps honors the first lady of Guam



From left, Director General Paul Wang of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Consul General Roberto Ruecho of the Federated States of Micronesia, Consul General Jeff Kenty of the Republic of Palau, Guam first lady Christine M.S. Calvo, Consul General Bayani V. Mangibin of the Republic of the Philippines, Consul General Hisatsugu Shimizu of Japan, Honorary Consul Roberto Fracassini of Italy, and Consul Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian of the Philippines.

The Consular Corps of Guam held its monthly luncheon meeting at The President, Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort on Aug. 28, 2013.

This month's luncheon meeting was hosted by Philippine Consul General Bayani Mangibin and attended by Palau Consul General Jeff Kenty, the Dean of the Consular Corps; Federated States of Micronesia Consul General Roberto Ruecho, Japan Consul General Hisatsugu Shimizu, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Director General Paul Wang, Italy Honorary Consul Roberto Fracassini, and Philippine Consul Edgar Tomas Auxilian. Three Corps members were off-island: the Korean consul general, France Honorary Consul Joelle Wainer, and New Zealand Honorary Consul John Scragg.

Guam first lady Christine M.S. Calvo was the guest of honor at the meeting. She was accompanied by former senator Telo Taitague, external affairs adviser of the Office of the Governor of Guam, and Janice Sablan Ada, chief of



Guam first lady Christine M.S. Calvo exchanges views with the members of the Consular Corps of Guam. Seated from left, Consul General Jeff Kenty of the Republic of Palau, Guam first lady Christine M.S. Calvo, former senator Telo Taitague, External Affairs Advisor of the Office of the Governor of Guam; Consul Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian; Janice A. Sablan, chief of staff of the Office of the First Lady of Guam; Director General Paul Wang of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office; Consul General Roberto Ruecho of the Federated States of Micronesia, Consul General Bayani V. Mangibin of the Republic of the Philippines, Consul General Hisatsugu Shimizu of Japan, and Honorary Consul Roberto Fracassini of Italy.

staff of the Office of the First Lady of Guam.

The Consular Corps invited Calvo to its meeting to convey to her in person the group's appreciation for her active role in enhancing the relations of Guam with the respective corps members' countries, particularly at this time that her office handles the protocol affairs.

Calvo informed the group of the programs and advocacies of her office and sought the cooperation of the consular corps in promoting activities in Guam and in their respective countries that will enhance their cordial relations with Guam. She discussed with the group the forthcoming Guam's mission to Thailand for the promotion of sports tourism and expressed the hope that this could be expanded to the corps' member countries.

The first lady also informed the group that this year's Christmas lighting event, which was held in the past at the Skinner Plaza, will now take place at the Governor's House. She stated that she will invite, among others, the women's groups of the Consular Corps' respective communities in Guam to plan and ensure the success of this event. She further invited the Consular Corps to join this Christmas lighting event either as a group or as individual countries.

The luncheon meeting ended with Mangibin conveying, as the host, the Consular Corps's gratitude for taking time to meet with them. He considered the luncheon meeting "historic" as this was the first time that the Consular Corps of Guam met the first lady of the Island. The group also appreciated the support and cooperation of former senator Taitague who has been instrumental in making the government of Guam closer to the Consular Corps. The members took the opportunity to welcome officially Ada, the chief of staff of the First Lady's Office, and look forward to working closely with her. (PR)

## Health+Fitness event draws 138

The Health+Fitness Outreach event organized by the Association of Filipino Pastors was a success with more than 130 people availing of health screening services last Saturday at the Saipan Community Church.

Victorious Christian Church pastor Brenden Perez said a total of 138 people from all walks of life availed of the free blood pressure, blood sugar, body mass index, and dental examination conducted by members of churches under the organization's umbrella.

Aside from the 6am to 9am health screening, the Health+Fitness Outreach event also had Zumba, an in-

formation talk on health and nutrition, and prayer counseling activities.

Perez said the weather cooperated on Saturday and the whole event went smoothly as there was a steady stream of people who took advantage of the free health screening and not the deluge that often attracts similar events.

The Association of Filipino Pastors is made up of 11 churches on Saipan: Saipan Community Church, Victorious Christian Church, Cornerstone Christian Church, Jesus Is Lord Church, Marianas Bible Fellowship Church, Christian Bible Fellowship Church, Marianas

Christian Church, Upper Room International Ministries, Life In The Son Fellowship, Mission Connection Ministry, and Filipino Community Church.

Perez thanked all volunteers, especially Dr. Bert Ventura, Dr. Hazel Brown, and nurses and other health professionals who lent their services.

Perez said the group will hopefully conduct its Health+Fitness Outreach again next year. The Medical+Fitness Outreach actually commemorates the anniversary of the organization. The Association of Filipino Pastors was formed in the late 1990s. (Saipan Tribune)



A total of 138 people availed of free health screening services during last Saturday's Health+Fitness Outreach organized by the Association of Filipino Pastors at the Saipan Community Church.



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Before the missiles fly vs Syria

In the last few days, President Barack Obama has lurches from diplomatic caution to military bellicosity over what to do about the Syrian chemical attack that killed hundreds of civilians last week.

What's sorely missing in the administration's voluble discussion of the incident is a clear, compelling case to convince U.S. allies of the justification for an attack and a plan for what will happen after an attack, should Syria or its friends in Tehran or just possibly Moscow retaliate against the U.S. or its allies in the region. What if the damage to Syria's war infrastructure isn't sufficiently severe, and the Assad regime defiantly decides to double down?

The administration is scrambling for a policy on Syria. The result so far: a muddled mess. Obama, having long ago said that Assad must go and that Syria's use of chemical weapons would cross a red line, has let his desires get ahead of his willingness—at least thus far—to enforce them. The clumsy timeline:

—On Monday, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry all but pinned the attack on Syrian President Bashar Assad. He signaled the urgency of response.

—On Tuesday, Americans awoke to news stories, clearly leaked by the White House, with "senior U.S. officials" laying out fairly detailed threats on the duration and breadth of likely missile strikes against Syrian targets; the implication was that other governments, potentially those of France and Great Britain, would join in punishing Assad.

—On Wednesday, President Obama said in an interview on PBS' NewsHour, "We have concluded that the Syrian government in fact carried these (attacks) out."

—On Thursday, however, came news reports that U.S. officials have compiled strong circumstantial evidence but no "smoking gun" proving that the order to attack came from Assad or his top commanders. Several U.S. officials said the intelligence linking Assad to the attack is "no slam dunk," The Associated Press reported.

What's more, in that PBS interview the president telegraphed his likely military reaction, telling the world (Damascus, Tehran and Moscow included) that if he decides to attack, the Syrians could expect little more than "a shot across the bow, saying, 'Stop doing this.'"

It's mystifying that the president would toss away so much military advantage. Why not keep the Syrians guessing about how big of an attack to expect and how long it might continue?

Obama is acting like he's already decided to attack Syria and that he expects America's allies to come along for the ride because, well, just because.

Given all this murky messaging, it's not surprising that over the last couple of days, those key allies—and many members of both parties in the U.S. Congress—have told the president: Not so fast.

"This mass chemical massacre cannot go unanswered," French President Francois Hollande said earlier this week. But on Thursday, he was cautious, stating that "everything must be done for a political solution."

British Prime Minister David Cameron, who earlier this week said "the world shouldn't stand idly by" on the Syrian crisis is now ... standing by. The House of Commons on Thursday voted against British military action against Syria.

With customary allies flinching and Congress asking ques-

See SYRIA on Next Page

Judge@213KANSASSTARS/judge@kstar.com



HOW YOU PUNISH SYRIA

## Around the world, the cross is in the crosshairs

I've sat in countless church pews, all over the world. I've listened to homilies in French, Spanish, English, Italian and—the most beautiful of all—Latin. I've spent hours gazing at the refraction of light through stained glass windows, lighted countless candles, and knelt on so many kneelers that my shins carry the permanent indentation of the lifelong Catholic.

I've always taken for granted that I can enter by the front door, sing loudly in celebration, seek communion and absolution without worrying about who might be looking on. Unquestionably, I live my faith in the light of day. This week at Mass, I was reminded of those who can't when the priest asked me to pray for my brothers and sisters who are forced to seek God in the shadows, and risk their lives in the search.

In this country, like most of the Western world, there is no such thing as true religious persecution. This is not to say that people of faith don't come up against discrimination. Those who've challenged the health care birth-control mandate know that the current administration is not particularly sympathetic to claims of religious freedom. Worse, it has become obvious that anyone who questions the validity of same-sex marriage based upon strongly held religious principles can expect to be called a bigot and, perhaps, find himself slapped with a civil-rights lawsuit, as recently happened to a wedding photographer in New Mexico.

In this 50th anniversary year of Abington v. Schemp, the local case that abolished prayer in public schools, we pat ourselves on the back because of our tolerance for those who choose not to believe. This is probably a good thing, even though you can't help but note the glee with which certain groups greet the heavy-booted march of secularization. They don't want to torture people of faith, but they don't mind making them sweat.

But sweating and being the object of suspicion or derision is nothing compared to what is going on in the rest of the world, places where owning a Bible is a death sentence (North Korea) and going to Mass is a suicidal act (Nigeria).

Unfortunately, this doesn't attract the attention of the homegrown media, because we in the West have a problem seeing religious folk as victims. (We also find Miley Cyrus and her impersonation of a slut to be much more interesting.)

Americans in particular are more accustomed to complaining about the Catholic Church's attempt to "impose" its views of abortion on the rest of us, or we see the file video of the Westboro Baptist kooks and equate theology with pathology. We also prosecute parents who refuse to give medical treatment to their children in the name of "religious freedom" and prefer "Interior Design" to "Intellectual Design." It's all part of the balancing act.

By **CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS**  
Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at [cflowers1961@gmail.com](mailto:cflowers1961@gmail.com).



Tragically, there is no balancing in some parts of the world, particularly when it comes to Christians. In the 21st century, the cross is in the crosshairs, and the most brutal attacks are reserved for those who follow Jesus. This is not to diminish the historical persecution of Jews, which is, perhaps, the only similar template that we have for deadly intolerance. The Holocaust is the single worst incident of religious-based violence in modern memory (with the possible exception of the extermination of Armenians by the Turks.)

But as Archbishop Charles Chaput observed in an afterword to the book "Persecuted: The Global Assault on Christians," "We are living in an age of intensifying, anti-Christian persecution."

Again, it is hard for the average American to understand how perilous it is for a Christian to openly profess his faith in a place like, for just one deadly example, Iran. Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani sat in a jail cell for years under a death sentence because he converted from Islam to Christianity. In Iraq, Catholic students were murdered on their way to school. In China, an elderly priest was abducted, never to be heard from again. In Pakistan, a woman was given a death sentence for insulting Muhammad.

And this past month, Egypt's Coptic Christians saw their worst fears realized as the persecution that had begun decades ago increased exponentially as the Arab Spring became a summer of hell. Churches were burned, nuns brutalized, worshippers murdered, and the rest of the world called it a "political problem."

This is not about politics. This is about human rights. Westerners need to realize that just because we prize our "freedom from religion" and stand on top of that euphemistic wall screaming "Keep your rosaries off my ovaries," people in other parts of the world are dying for their faith. And most of them are dying at the hands of people who subscribe to a twisted vision of Muhammad's prophecy, one that feels threatened by believers in Christ. It is the same mentality that motivated Hitler to destroy God's chosen people, the same diseased rationale that led Stalin to burn the churches and imprison its children.

Wake up, people. It's 1939 all over again.



# Maliñgun liñguahe giya Guam

Malignos estoria gi PDN na 30 pot sientu na familia umu’usa finu’ “Chamoru” giya Guam. Siña ha’ kulan na’ disganau lau guaha lokue’ lihitimu motibu na tai-guine masusede.

Un’ patte gi dibate ilelegña na i satbasion i patgon gaige gi haf’ ineyagña gi finu’ Iñglis, taigue gi finu’ Chamoru. Ala kuenta liñgua-hen kinenduktan bisnis gaige lamayot patte gi finu’ Iñglis. Poressu na estague’ ma-adapta kumu liñgua-hen familia.

Gi mismu tiempu, megai esta mesklau na inakamu’ entalu’ natibu yan otru rasan tautau. I modun komunikasion solu i finu’ Iñglis ‘nai siña i dos tautau umadiñgan. Makat ma-establese inakomprende yangin konsukuat ha u’usa liñguahiña tat kumu Japones yan Cham-oru para u adiñgan.

I na-chatsagaña este na risaken tinilaika gi ha’anita i uttimofña man-mama’ hit i neguru (African Americans) giya America ni tai liñguahe.

I linala’ maseha haye na rasan tautau kulan intaktu guiha: Gai ilu, tatautau yan dadalag. Debi u chechetun este diariu. Ti siña na para u separau ‘sino apattau. Parehu yan liñguahimu.

I tinituhon ma-abiba usun liñguahe gaige primera gi halom guma’ familia. Yangin in’ letke pues ni unu gi famaguon siña fuminu’ Chamoru. Dudayu’ lokue’ kau para ta abiba nuebu na Kutturán Naufragu—kulan pasaheron mafondu na batku—‘nai man-e-ena-ñga hit otru batku na u falofan ya u muebe hit halom safu gi tanu’.

Gaige i manafitmen usun finu’ Chamorro gi patman kanaimiyu.

## Offisiun Mañgge’

Este i mañgge’ todú klase guaha. Unu ti matulaika: Debi u klaru yan komprendiyun tinige’mu. Ala kuenta, un’ apupunta siete esta nuebe gradu gi usun palabra kosake makomprende haf’ dichu i asuntomu.

Yangin gi entalu’ este na gradu ti makomprende haf’ un’ tuge’ pues ni hagu mismu ti un’ komprende haf’ un’ sasañgan.

Guaha ha’ lokue’ ‘nai hu sablasus sanhilu’ i asuntu gi hilu’ espe-ransa na siempre u tunog papa’ gi pumalu. Depende este gi asuntu ni inakompapaña ni mas hihot na usun palabra piot gi finu’ Iñglis (English). Dididi’ kulan gai minakat este gi finu’ Chamorro layeye pot poble liñguahita.

Gi silensiun noche ‘an mamapotyú’ dumeskansa, gaigeyu’ sessu gi komputa mamañgge’ ‘sino mananaitai materiát siha pot para bai’ kesoda’ estúdiu na inanalisan asuntu siha.

Guaha na materiát debi un’ akompara yan otru siha estúdiu para un’ lie’ kau man-aya hinassu ‘sino haf’ i difirensiau na opinion yan manu mas fitme mau’udai gi establisau na pisu. Ginen este ‘nai hu chuchule’ materiát-hu siha piot ‘nai nuebu i konseptu.

Maseha ñgai’an na tiempu, ya hululu’ i para bai’ soda’ i minaga-het. Makat hu chansa dinage solu masge’ kinemprendeghu. Finu’ man-amku’: “Chadegña magacha’ un’ dakon ke ke’yau”. Tat mas ke minagahet. Gigon un’ chansa dumobla i minagahet, ensegidas maliñgu integridatmu.

Bes enkuando guaha ‘nai hu gacha’ dedegon ‘nos kuantos. Dis-pensayun sa’ ya hululu’ gi obligasion yan responsablidad-hu gaige gi proteksion i inosiente. Ti obligasionhu dumefende un’ ga’ga’ poli-tika ni paire yan fafayiña man-dage. Poressu na hu asegugura na dinanche asuntoghu gi haf’ hu lagnos dispues publikamente.

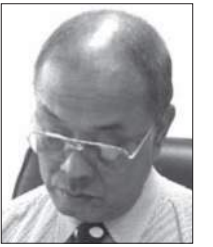
Todu dobladan mattiru yan felis na hinanau hu totpe gi 40 años desde ke mañgge’yu’. Hulie’ i manomtum, kontodu chat-tomtum, malate’ lau salamañkeru, humidde yan silensiu lau fitme gi pisun hineñgeña.

Hulie’ i makat na tinilaika gi hiniyuñg i Navy guine. Lau fafayiña i militat humanau gotpe. Taya’ planun tinilaikan adumididi’. Ka-

## By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



hulu’ ya ma’pos.

Gi mismu tiempu, megai gi tautau-ta man-dinisplanta ginen che’chu’ niha. Ta usune hinalom i Trust Territory lau hombre este sumen makat. I tafafana’ na chinatsaga otru higante na trompison. Lau tapan asustene sa’ libianu tana’ salakumba’ este siha na proble-ma de hemunos de man-ma’gas hegsu’ I Deni’.

## Man-ñahlalañg

Humanau i prohimu para un’ misan enteru ‘nai ha ekspepekta na u guaha sineyu’ para u konsige planuña malagu para gobietnu. “Lau taya’ lai numanae’yu felisitasion para bai’ konsige”. Atan kau ti mampos tatkilu’ i kabayumu.

I otru balakun politika nina’ triste ni un’ kuestion ni sessu ma-faisen: “Hafa unu bidamu benefisiosu para i linahyan?” Makat ha oppe sa’ taya’ magahet bidaña sustansiau. Rikonose amigo kau ti nina’ badu kabayumu ni ñalañgña.

I uttimu mampos fatigau ya kulan madog plaka ni sige ha repite i mismu gueku siha na promesa ni tiha komple. Atan kau sisiña ha’ kabayumu malagu ni yinimogña kulan babuen Boninas.

■■■

Hu huñgog midision puti gi halom linau sumen miserapble na linala’ tautau-ta siha gi señgsoñg ni finifiñut ni baban ekonomia. Kase propiu yangin ilegta: “Ai, dalai ‘ste na sasalaguan”.

# Puerto Rico’s future should be clearer

By ED MORALES

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Puerto Ricans have been second-class citizens for too long. Although they have participated as Americans both in war and as mainland citizens, island Puerto Ricans still can’t vote for the president of the United States.

For too many years now, the debate over Puerto Rico’s status has amounted to a three-ring circus that has done nothing to solve the territorial status of the Caribbean island, whose residents are U.S. citizens. The island, which has been a de facto colony for 115 years, deserves much better.

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a recent hearing to address a nonbinding plebiscite that took place last November.

The hearing—which was attended by only three members of the committee—was built on the premise that the statehood option won 61 percent of the vote. But that result has been questioned because

pro-commonwealth campaigners asked their constituents to leave their ballots blank in protest. If the blank votes were counted, state-hood would have received only 45 percent of the votes.

What’s more, the plebiscite was written in an awkward two-part format designed to favor the statehood party, which expected to win re-election and consolidate its power. But Puerto Rican voters had tired of the statehood party’s repressive tactics and the failure of its privatization agenda, voting out the incumbent governor, Luis Fortu-no, as well as overturning his party’s majority in both legislatures.

Yet in the hearing, the committee members validated the false notion that the island’s voters had chosen statehood. They badgered the flustered and inarticulate pro-commonwealth governor, Alejan-dro Garcia Padilla, with questions about an “enhanced common-wealth” option, and were more supportive of Resident Commis-sioner Pedro Pierluisi, the only ranking member of the statehood party still in office.

Pierluisi stated that the commonwealth status is no longer legiti-mate, and pushed for an “up or down” vote on status with only state-

hood or independence as the options. In the current cost-cutting and anti-Latino atmosphere of the Republican-dominated House, how-ever, it would be unlikely that statehood would be approved.

The commonwealth status should eventually be eliminated, but statehood is not the answer for an island with a Latin American cul-tural identity.

Puerto Rico should be granted its independence, but with a period of dual citizenship, and a substantial financial package, including favorable trade terms. It should not be cut off and left to fend for itself in the shark-infested waters of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Puerto Rico does not need a three-ring circus to decide its fate. It needs a responsible U.S. policy to make up for centuries of colonial abuse by both Spain and America. Only then will it finally be free.

*Ed Morales is a writer for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affili-ated with The Progressive magazine.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# We need your help, Kili

The people of the CNMI really need your help, Delegate Kili. We know that you are doing all you can to influence the laws in Congress but I would like to make this request on behalf of the many people wanting to access the many products advertised on TV but are not offered in our service region or the CNMI is not listed on their state listing. I also know you are tackling this issue on a one-by-one basis driven by request to your office. But I respectfully beg for you to consider the following that will help everyone.

There are hundreds of products available on TV that could be sold here but the insular areas of America are not included

# Get a hold of reality

*“As an elected leader from Tinian, I cannot be gullible and accept a simple memo, thinking that it is justified for the people of Tinian. Knowing that the money is under ‘all others’ means it could be spent on other things aside from homesteads.”—Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian)*

If you claim that you are the one who represents the interest of the people of Tinian and you have no interest for your deep pocket, why was over a hundred thousand dollars in the CNMI budget for 2013 allocated to an office in the CNMI that did not exist during your watch? Why were individuals who have not stepped foot on the island of Tinian given homesteads during your watch? Oh, we understand that you are representing us and that is the reason why you want to micromanage the CNMI Department of Public Land. If you are watching out for the residents of Tinian, why

on their email listing or their phone will not accept calls from our region. Given that these products represent a multimillion-dollar opportunity for U.S. commerce if available in the insular areas, Congress and the President would be hard pressed not to support a resolution for an executive directive by the President for the inclusion of insular areas in all products that are being made available to the other 50 states. My rationale for an execu-tive order is that it will be much easier than creating legislation and executive orders are easier than legislation because they can always be cancelled by the next President. You will also avoid the need for the Senate to be involved. I believe this is the easiest and most expeditious means for getting it done.

I know it’s a numbers game in Congress and if you can get all the insular area representatives in Congress to work together and create a bloc that will press this issue, there is virtually no rationale to op-pose the inclusion of insular areas. You may even get a big “thank you” from Congress and the President for offering a suggestion that

were individuals who have no political ties like us denied home-stead and agricultural lot? Is your assumption making any sense to us? Before making decisions on behalf of the residents of Tinian, please let us participate in your decision-making and hope-fully we can put a stop to the status quo mentality. In any form or way, you are not representing us by using the micromanage technique to justify your leadership. Are you saying you know what you are doing? Or you look the other way when it comes to the corrupted behavior syndrome? To our dearest leader, Honor-able Mr. Conner, get a hold of reality before you start claiming that you are representing us on Tinian.

**Segundo Castro**

*Marpo Valley, Tinian*

will improve America’s commerce within the United States.

Just think about the power of *one* letter from the President direct-ing *all* businesses doing TV advertisement in the 50 states to extend their offers to *all* the insular areas with U.S. post offices. There will be an expansion and improvement in the commerce of America’s economy and at the same time a tremendous service to the people in all the insular areas—a win-win scenario. I believe this will be one offer that Congress and the President can’t refuse, if we can get someone to do the work.

In conclusion, work is the optimum word because we have to put in the work to get things done for the CNMI. We have been waiting and waiting on investors to come and do the work for us but it isn’t happening as we can all see! So if our delegate can start working on the things we can do something about in Congress, his term won’t be a total waste because it looks like Congress is not budging on the issues he has presented. One person can do extraordinary things and you are in the best position to get this extraordinary request ac-complished for people.

**Ambrose M Bennett**

*Kagman, Saipan*

## SYRIA

*From Page 10*

tions, what should Obama do?






Full stop. Now is the time for sharing the best intel available on the use of chemical weapons and for reminding other govern-ments—and American citizens—that doing nothing, or next to nothing, would invite even greater atrocities. If there is to be an attack, it can’t be waged by a Coalition of One.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼75°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼78
Palau	Showers	▲84 ▼74
Yap	Showers	▲89 ▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲88 ▼76
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼74
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79

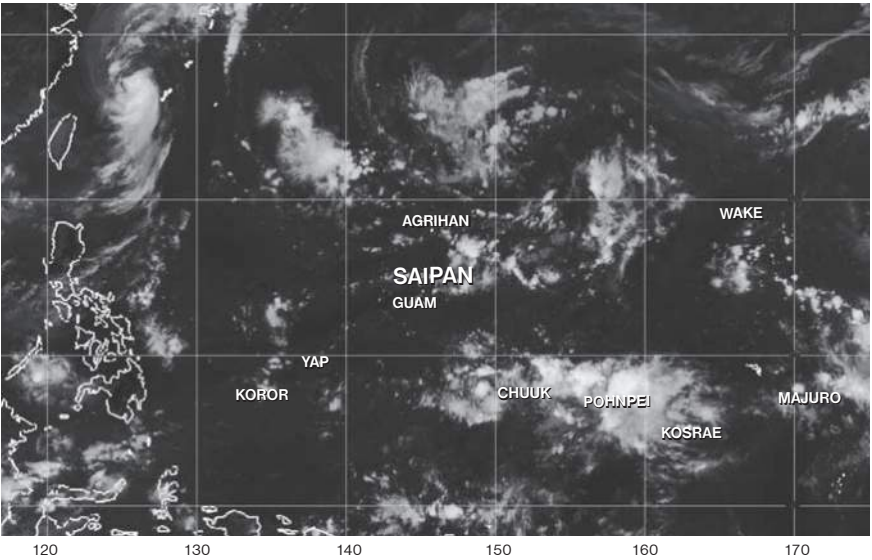
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲61 ▼49
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼63
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86 ▼80
Honolulu	Sunny	▲88 ▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲77 ▼61
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼70
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼78
Melbourne	Sunny	▲79 ▼55
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲82 ▼71
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼76
Paris	Sunny	▲82 ▼61
Pusan	Windy	▲81 ▼71
Rome	Sunny	▲86 ▼68
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼60
Seoul	Sunny	▲82 ▼60
Tokyo	Sunny	▲90 ▼76
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲92 ▼74

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:16 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
6:31 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
1:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:05 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2013**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough meanders eastward from 9N140E through circulations centered just north of Chuuk at 10N150E and northeast of Majuro at 9N178E to beyond the date line at 10N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 150 miles of a line from 8N147E to 7N164E. Similar weather exists east of Majuro or east of a line from 13N171E to 8N172E to 4N177E. A surface trough curves northeastward from 23N132E through circulations centered near the northern CNMI at 19N143E and south of Minami Tori Shima at 19N153E to beyond 25N at 170E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are taking place near Guam and Saipan to west of Wake Island within 150 miles of a line from 15N147E to 20N160E. Comparable weather is found north of the Marianas and near Minami Tori Shima or east of a line from 20N136E to 22N153E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:28 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	6:27 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:25 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:55 AM	4:45 PM
Wednesday	4:45 AM	5:26 PM
Thursday	5:34 AM	6:06 PM
Friday	6:25 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	7:16 AM	7:28 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:35am 9:25am Daily UA5074 11:20am 12:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b> UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5073 10:00am 10:50am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> OZ1077 4:50am 7:10am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:25pm Daily	<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b> UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:10am 10:45am 6
<b>SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)</b> DL583 5:50am 8:30am 2, 5, 6	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> UA5062 3:45am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 11:15am 11:50am 6
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 Daily OZ1087 10:00pm 2:25am+1 2, 3, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:10am 6:20am Daily	<b>NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN</b> DL582 8:30pm 1:00am+1 1, 4, 5
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ612 3:40am 7:20am Daily OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b> MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ611 9:10pm 2:40am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)</b> SYL9950 6:40pm 1:30am+1 7	<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b> MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:50am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 10:05pm Daily via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:35am 4:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM US5074/PR111 11:20am 4:35pm 1, 5, 7 via GUM UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:30pm 10:45pm Daily via ICN	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b> OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM OZ604/745 3:30pm 10:40pm Daily via ICN	<b>KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN</b> SYL9949 12:45pm 5:20pm 7
	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> PR110/UA5072 7:55am 6:25pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 8:00am 12:50am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm Daily via ICN UA184/5071 11:35pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b> OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 10:45pm 8:05am+1 1, 5 via GUM UA180/5071 10:50pm 8:05am+1 3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## Workers' protests highlight fast-food economics

**NEW YORK (AP)**—American fast-food workers often earn about \$7.25 an hour to make the \$3 chicken sandwiches and 99-cent tacos that generate billions of dollars in profit each year for McDonald's and other chains.

Thousands of the nation's many millions of fast-food workers and their supporters have been staging protests across the country in the past year to call attention to the struggles of living on or close to the federal minimum wage. The push raises the question of whether the economics of the fast-food industry allow room for a boost in pay for its workers.

The industry is built on a business model that keeps costs—including those for labor—low

so companies can make money while satisfying America's love of cheap, fast food. And no group along the food chain, from the customers to the companies, wants to foot the bill for higher wages for workers.

Customers want a deal when they order burgers and fries. But those cheap eats squeeze franchise store owners who say they already survive on slim margins. And the corporations have to grow profits to keep shareholders happy.

"There's no room in the fast-food business model for substantially higher pay levels without raising prices for food," says Richard Adams, a former McDonald's franchisee who now runs a fast-food consulting business.



In this Aug. 29, 2013, file photo, protestors demonstrate outside a fast-food restaurant in Los Angeles.

### Fast food fight

In nearly 60 cities across the U.S., fast-food workers staged pre-Labor Day strikes Aug. 29, the latest action in a campaign for \$15 an hour wages and the right to unionize without retaliation.

#### Where workers walked out



NOTE: No actions in Alaska and Hawaii (not shown)

#### Fed-up workers

A common, but false assumption is that fast-food workers are teens or high school dropouts who do not "need" higher wages; who the workers are

16-19 years	30%
20-54 years	67
55 years and older	3

Men	47
Women	53

Less than high school	28
High school	41
Some college, or more	31

White	59
African-American	16
Hispanic	18
Asian, other	6

NOTE: Race, ethnicity does not add up to 100 percent due to rounding

#### An unsavory defense

Supporters of the \$200 billion fast food industry say low-paying, frontline jobs are stepping stones to higher paying ones; how the industry compares to all U.S. industries

Frontline workers	89.1%
Frontline supervisors	64.1%
Managerial, professional	2.2%

Fast food	2.2
All	8.7
Fast food	4.8
All	31.1

© 2013 MCT  
Source: lowpayisnotok.org, Center for Economic and Policy Research, National Employment Law Project  
Graphic: Pat Carr

Median wage \$8.94/hr.

## Selling farms sometimes calls for creative deals

**ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)**—After four decades of farming, Kevin Carley was ready to pass along his dairy operation in central New York. And his son-in-law was eager to take charge.

But simply selling operating farms—priced pieces of land with barns and animals—can be costly and complicated. So the pair structured a deal that phased in control to son-in-law Dan Dimon, leaving Carley as an employee.

"I just didn't want to give up, so we both had to do a trust thing where I just handed him the steering wheel and I said, 'OK, I'll ride shotgun,'" said

Carley, 57, taking a break from work at the farm in Pompey.

The need to be innovative in selling farms to the next generation is becoming more urgent as farmland prices rise and farmers get older. Some farmers have come up with different strategies to make sure the younger generation can continue to work the land.

"It is a concern, especially when you have less than 1 percent to the population producing the food for the whole country," said Edward Staehr, executive director of NY FarmNet, an Ithaca-based not-for-profit that helps farmers with

succession and other issues.

The number of farmers who are 65 or older grew by 22 percent nationwide in the five years ending in 2007, according to the latest federal statistics. Based on the advancing age of farmers, the American Farmland Trust estimates that at least 230 million acres are likely to change hands in the next 20 years—or roughly a quarter of all farm land.

At the same time, the price of farmland has been rising steadily around the nation. Staehr notes that even inexpensive farmland can run \$1,000 an acre, with prime land going for many times that.

which represents more than 2 million workers.

Workers protesting in cities including New York, Chicago and Detroit, are pushing for \$15 an hour, which would mean wages of \$31,000 a year. But the figure is seen as more of a rallying point and many say they'd be happy with even a few bucks more.

"Anything to make it more reasonable," says Jamal Harris, 21, who earns \$7.40 an hour working at three different fast-food restaurants around Detroit—a Burger King, a Long John Silver's and a Checkers—because he's never sure how many hours he'll get at any one job.

The same is true for Robert Wilson, a 25-year-old McDonald's employee in Chicago. "It was never a consistent check,"

said Wilson, who lives with his mother and brother who also work at the restaurant.

Wilson says he was given one 10-cent raise in the past four years. That brings his pay up to \$8.60 an hour after seven years working at the restaurant.

Low wages and a lack of benefits for workers aren't anything new in the fast-food industry, of course. It's why "McJob" has been a pejorative term for so long. What's changing now is that such jobs are playing a bigger role in the U.S. economy, bringing the fast-food protests closer to home for many.

Nearly 70 percent of the jobs gained since the recession ended have been in low-paying industries such as fast-food or retail. That's even though half of the jobs lost during the Great Recession were in industries

that pay between \$38,000 and \$68,000 a year.

Currently, the median annual wage for all U.S. full-time wage and salary workers is about \$40,350, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. That's based on weekly earnings of \$776.

The tilt toward low-wage jobs is what makes it so critical for fast-food and retail jobs to provide better pay, says Robert Reich, an advocate for workers who served as Labor Secretary in the Clinton administration. "It's impossible for the economy to run on all four cylinders unless consumers have enough purchasing power to keep the economy going," he said.

Still, raising wages for fast-food jobs means figuring out where the money would come from.

## Ford recalls 370,000 cars

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Ford is recalling 370,000 cars due to potential corrosion to their steering shaft that may result in loss of steering.

No incidents or injuries have been reported.

The cars include 2005 to 2011 Ford Crown Victoria, Mercury Grand Marquis and Lincoln Town Cars. About 355,000 are in the U.S. and 15,000 in Canada.

Dealers will inspect the cars and may replace the lower intermediate steering shaft and if necessary reseat

cure a lower steering column bearing and replace the upper intermediate steering shaft.

States included in the recall are: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

Owners in other states can also ask for inspections and repairs.



# Nation

## Citing sarin use, US seeks Congress' OK for action

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration geared up for the biggest foreign policy vote since the Iraq war by arguing Sunday that new physical evidence shows the Syrian government used sarin gas in a deadly August attack. With its credibility on the line, the United States must respond, the country's top diplomat said.

Members of Congress, deadlocked on just about everything these days and still on summer break, expressed sharply divergent opinions about whether to give President Barack Obama the go-ahead he requested to retaliate with military force against the Assad regime, and what turning down the commander in chief could mean for America's reputation.

Presenting Obama's case for military action, Secretary of State John Kerry gave a series of interviews on Sunday news shows outlining the latest information the administration has received about the Aug. 21 attack in the Damascus suburbs that the U.S. says killed 1,429 civilians, including more than 400 children. He said samples collected by first responders added to the growing body of proof that Syria's government launched a chemical weapons attack.

"Samples of hair and blood have been tested and they have reported positive for signatures of sarin," Kerry said. "Each day that goes by, this case is even stronger. We know that the regime ordered this attack. We know they prepared for it. We know where the rockets came from. We know where they landed. We know the damage

that was done afterwards."

Sarin, which affects the nervous system and is toxic in liquid or gas form, can be delivered in missiles, bombs, rockets or artillery shells. The gas is outlawed under international rules of warfare. The reference to hair and blood samples were the first pieces of specific physiological evidence cited by any member of the administration, which previously spoke only about an unnamed nerve agent.

Kerry's assertion coincided with the beginning of a forceful administration appeal for congressional support, now that Obama has declared he will await approval from the House and Senate before ordering any cruise missile strikes or other action.

On Capitol Hill, senior administration officials briefed lawmakers in private to explain why the U.S. is compelled to act against President Bashar Assad's government. Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough also made calls to individual lawmakers. Further classified meetings were planned over the next three days.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona, a leading Senate hawk and the candidate Obama defeated for the presidency in 2008, said he'd discuss Syria with the president at the White House Monday.

Obama must convince skeptical Americans and their representatives in Congress of the need for more U.S. military action in the Muslim world af-

ter a decade of war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He also is trying to assemble an international coalition, but finding it hard to land partners. They fear becoming involved in a conflict that has claimed more than 100,000 lives in the past 2 1/2 years and dragged in terrorist groups on both sides of the battlefield.

Only France is firmly on board among the major military powers. Britain's Parliament rejected the use of force in a vote last week.

The United Nations on Sunday asked the head of its chemical weapons inspection team to expedite the analysis of tests from samples it collected from Syria last week.

Assad's government, which has denied allegations of chemical weapons use, reveled in Obama's decision to defer any immediate action. Deputy Foreign Minister Fayssal Mikdad claimed that the move reflected the lack of evidence of government culpability.

With Navy ships on standby in the eastern Mediterranean sea ready to launch missiles, Congress began a series of meetings that will take place over the next several days in preparation for a vote once lawmakers return from summer break, which is scheduled to end Sept. 9.

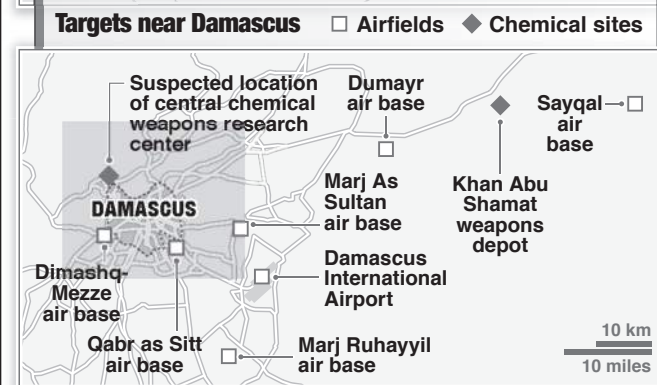
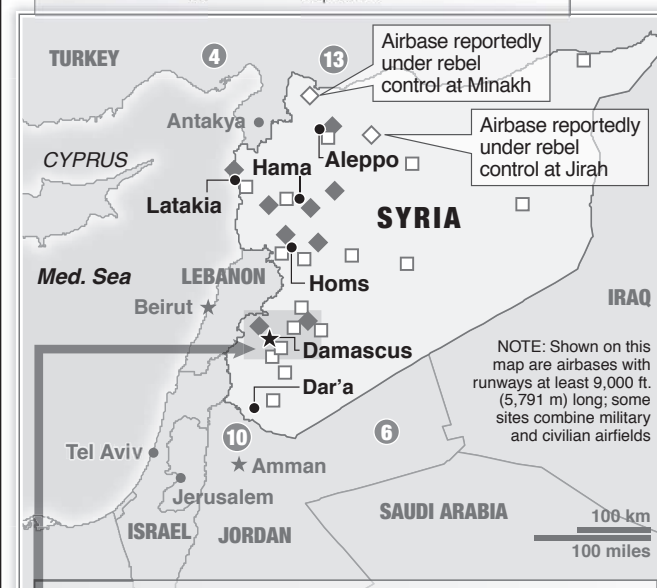
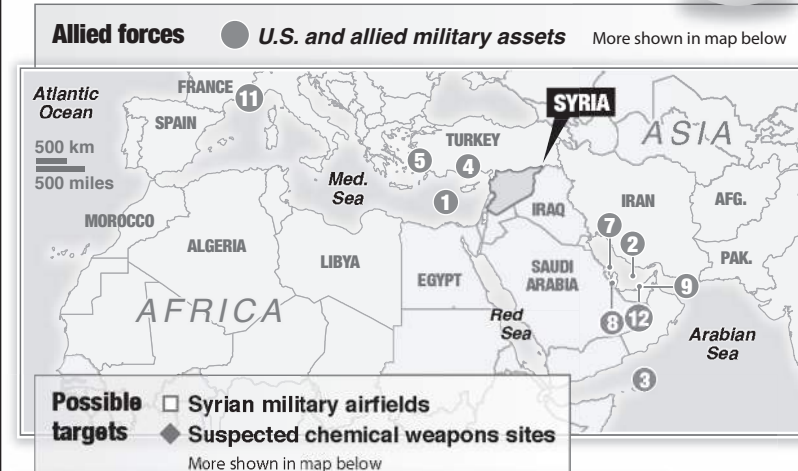
Dozens of members attended the two-hour classified briefing Sunday in the Capitol, though many emerged saying they needed to see more details of Obama's plan and more facts about the alleged chemical weapons attack.



Kerry

## Military forces encircle Syria

The U.S. and France have ships, planes and other assets in the region if a response to the Aug. 21 alleged chemical weapons attack by Syrian forces on civilians near Damascus is called for.



### Tomahawk cruise missile

- Submarine- or ship-launched
- Used against communications, air defense sites



• Range 1,000 mi. (1,600 km)

- Payload 1,000 lb. (450 kg) load of munitions
- Speed 550 mph (885 kph)
- Can "loiter" near target before striking

### Allied forces

#### United States

1. Five destroyers, with cruise missiles; USS Barry, USS Gravely, USS Mahan; USS Ramage, USS Stout

\*USS Stout expected to relieve one destroyer

#### Carrier groups

2. USS Nimitz
3. USS Harry S. Truman

#### Airbases; F-15 and F-16 strike aircraft

4. Based at Incirlik and 5. Ismir, Turkey; 6. Mafrak, Jordan

#### Military bases

7. Bahrain, 8. Qatar, 9. U.A.E.
10. Patriot missiles in Jordan

#### France

11. Carrier at Toulon
12. Rafale and Mirage strike aircraft at Al-Dhafra airbase in U.A.E.

#### NATO

13. Patriot missiles based in Gaziantep, Turkey

NOTE: On Aug. 29, British Parliament voted against participating in military action

## ACROSS THE NATION

### 1-year-old boy in NYC dies after shot in the head

NEW YORK (AP)—A 1-year-old boy has died after being shot in the head in New York City. Police say Antiq Henis was being pushed in a stroller by his mother and father while crossing a street in the Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn about 7:20 p.m. Sunday when the shooting occurred. They say multiple shots were fired. Authorities say the child was rushed to Brookdale University Hospital with a gunshot wound to the left side of his face but did not survive his injuries. He was declared dead at the hospital. Police have not made any arrests and haven't released any other preliminary details from their investigation.

### Crash on Pa. highway kills 6, including 2 kids

KANE, Pa. (AP)—An SUV crossed into oncoming traffic on a rural northwestern Pennsylvania highway and smashed head-on into another vehicle, killing six people, including two children, authorities said Sunday. A Jeep Liberty driven by 36-year-

old Kathy Douglas of Kane crossed the center line at about 4:30 p.m. Saturday and hit an approaching Pontiac Bonneville in the Allegheny National Forest, killing her daughter and nephew as well as four people in the sedan, state police said. The four occupants of the car, all residents of nearby St. Marys, died in the crash: the driver, Gary Beimel, 62, and passengers David Cuneo, 54, Elaine Beimel, 55, and Florence Donachy, 81.

### Sierra wildfire now California's fourth largest

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. (AP)—The wildfire burning in and around Yosemite National Park has become the fourth-largest conflagration in modern California history, fire officials said Sunday as clouds and higher humidity helped crews further contain the biggest blaze in the United States this year. The 2-week-old Rim Fire moved up a spot on the state's list of large wildfires dating back to 1932 when it grew to 348 square miles—an area larger than the cities of San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose

combined—on Saturday, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokesman Daniel Berlant said. Although the fire still is growing, it was 40 percent contained as of Sunday, up from 35 percent a day earlier.

### Dozens of aftershocks expected on Alaskan island

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) -- Dozens of noticeable aftershocks above magnitude 4.0 are expected in the remote Aleutian Island region off Alaska in the days and weeks following a major 7.0 earthquake, the Alaska state seismologist said Saturday. A dozen measurable aftershocks have already hit the region since Friday's quake, including one reaching 6.1 in strength, said seismologist Michael West. There have been more than 30 aftershocks measuring at least magnitude 2.5. None of the aftershocks are expected to cause a notable tsunami, since the initial quake did not cause one. And West said experts are not too worried this quake will trigger another significant quake nearby in the near future.

## Immigration bill knot: 'Special' citizenship path

WASHINGTON (AP)—As Congress wrestles with immigration legislation, a central question is whether the 11 million immigrants already in the United States illegally should get a path to citizenship.

The answer from a small but growing number of House Republicans is "yes," just as long as it's not the "special" path advocated by Democrats and passed by the Senate.

"There should be a pathway to citizenship—not a special pathway and not no pathway," Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, told ABC 4 Utah after speaking at a recent town hall meeting in his district. "But there has to be a legal, lawful way to go through this process that works, and right now it doesn't."

Many House Republicans say people who illegally crossed

the border or overstayed their visas should not be rewarded with a special, tailor-made solution that awards them a prize of American citizenship, especially when millions are waiting in line to attempt the process through current legal channels.

It's far from clear, however, what a path to citizenship that's not a special path to citizenship might look like, or how many people it might help.

The phrase means different things to different people, and a large number of House Republicans oppose any approach that results in citizenship for people now are in the country illegally. Some lawmakers say such immigrants should be permitted to attain legal worker status, but stop there and never progress to citizenship. That's a solution Democrats reject.



# Asia

## China's new leaders exert control over oil company

**BEIJING (AP)**—China's new leaders are asserting their authority over the country's biggest company with a corruption investigation that has netted five former and current top oil executives, including the latest—the former chairman of the company.

The announcement by the Ministry of Supervision on Sunday of an investigation into Jiang Jieming, director of the Cabinet's commission that runs state companies, marks the latest high-profile corruption case to be launched after China's new leader Xi Jinping took power in November.

The investigation into Jiang, who was previously chairman of the country's biggest oil company, China National Petro-

leum Corp., comes after similar probes were announced over the past week into four executives at the state-owned company.

The widening probe into top oil executives comes as reports say China's top leaders have endorsed a corruption investigation into Zhou Yongkang, a former security czar who was perceived as being influential in the oil sector. Zhou built his career in the state-run oil sector, rising to becoming general manager of CNPC.

Ahead of a key Communist Party meeting in November that in years past has been a platform for the announcement of economic programs, the administration of Xi, China's president, and Premier Li Keqiang,

appears to be making a stab at tackling the powerful interest groups many experts say have hamstrung the government.

Such vested interest groups are linked to state industries that benefit from monopolies, low-cost bank loans, free land and other favors—and are therefore opposed to the market reforms experts say China needs to prevent growth from stagnating.

The crackdown on China's biggest company—also the second-largest oil company in the world—signals the new administration's determination to exert control over the powerful sector, said Cheng Li, a Brookings Institution scholar.

The leadership wants to show “that they've got a certain de-

gree of consensus in the party's highest levels. That's not so easy to get, but they did,” Li said. “There's also a clear message that Xi Jinping and Li Keqiang want to undermine these vested interest groups therefore to pave the way for more market-oriented reform.”

Chinese authorities said Sunday that Jiang is being investigated over suspected serious disciplinary violations. The vague term is often shorthand in official Chinese announcements for allegations of corruption by a government official or manager of a state company. Jiang left his post as chairman of CNPC in March to head the Cabinet's Assets Supervision and Administration Commission.

“The leadership is acutely aware that they must reel in the opposition or disarm it. They have gone on a concerted anti-corruption quest, which appeals to the general public, but is also a way of eliminating the opposition,” Lombard Street Research said in a recent report. “A lot of the big state firms' senior managers sit on the Central Committee and they will need to be brought into line or discredited.”

Jiang is the first current member of the ruling Communist Party's Central Committee, which includes the country's top 200 officials, to have fallen since the party's generational handover in November. Two other officials who are also under investigation were alternate

members of the committee.

Authorities have announced a series of investigations into senior and lower level officials as President Xi Jinping has made a crackdown on corruption and extravagant, wasteful work styles a key feature of his first few months in power.

A general manager at state-owned phone company China Mobile was detained last month in connection with suspected discipline violations.

In July, former railways minister Liu Zhijun was given a suspended death sentence for bribery and abuse of power.

Last Monday, a high-profile corruption trial wrapped up for Bo Xilai, former party boss of the megacity of Chongqing.

## Indonesian anti-graft commission among recipients of 2013 Magsaysay Award



The 2013 Ramon Magsaysay awardees, Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, applaud during awarding ceremony Saturday Aug. 31, 2013 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines in Manila, Philippines. They are, from left to right, Sunita Samuwar of Nepal, representing the Shakti Samuwa (Power Group) organization, Habiba Sarabi of Afghanistan, Lahpai Seng Raw of Myanmar, Adnan Pandu Praja and Abraham Samad of Indonesia, representing Corruption Eradication Commission, KPK, and Dr. Ernesto Domingo of the Philippines.

By **XIANNE ARCANGEL**  
GMA NEWS

Three days after she engaged the media in an unprecedented, free-wheeling press conference, Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno was back to her vow of “dignified silence” Saturday, choosing her words carefully when she praised an Indonesian anti-corruption commission chosen as one of the 2013 Ramon Magsaysay awardees.

As the guest speaker at the Ramon Magsaysay Awarding Ceremonies at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Sereno spoke without a prepared speech and asked for understanding as she could not comment on the Komisi Pemberantasan Korupsi in detail “for fear of transgressing.”

Amid the audience's laughter at her carefully-worded praise, Sereno said KPK's work was very much admired based on

the warm applause the organization received when its citation for the award was being read.

“You hear it from the applause of my people, especially when mention was made of your 100 percent conviction rate [and] of your having sent big fish to jail. And what is so remarkable is that the people rallied around you,” said Sereno.

KPK, which translates to Corruption Eradication Commission in English, is an independent Indonesian government body created in 2002 to run after corrupt politicians and government employees.

The organization's far-reaching mandate ranges from the investigation and prosecution to prevention and the coordination of agencies authorized to combat corruption. It can even conduct searches and seizures, freeze assets, impose travel bans and even intercept communications with-

out prior court approval.

A civic leader was said to have once remarked upon the passage of the legislation creating KPK that politicians were “inviting a tiger into their house.”

KPK was recognized by the Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation for its “fiercely independent and successful campaign against corruption in Indonesia, combining the uncompromising prosecution of erring powerful officials with farsighted reforms in governance systems, and the educative promotion of vigilance, honesty and active citizenship among all Indonesians.”

Since its founding, KPK has handled 332 high-profile cases involving top government officials and successfully returned Rp 805.6 billion or US\$ 80 million to national coffers from recovered assets.

One of its most recent

achievements is its prosecution last year of Indonesia's sports minister Andi Mallarangeng due to his alleged involvement in a multi-million dollar corruption case. He eventually resigned in December 2012 at the height of KPK's investigation.

In their acceptance speech, KPK chairman Abraham Samad said the award affirms the organization's conviction to speak louder and harder against corruption.

“This award is a warning that we are at war based on a zero sum principle. This is a signal to alert everybody: ‘No mercy, no forgiveness, zero tolerance, and justice must prevail,’ he said.

### ‘Unjustified income’

KPK vice chairman Antazari Azhar was applauded when, in his speech, he mentioned the injustice of the corruption being perpetrated by “a few”—something that resonated with the Fili-

pinos in the audience especially with the expose of the P10 billion pork barrel scam involving certain lawmakers and businesswoman Janet Lim-Napoles.

“People sacrifice themselves [by] working so hard only for survival. On the other hand, a few people do not sweat, but are earning unlimited amounts of income. Their unlimited income is unjustified income. This is injustice,” he said.

Azhar vowed that KPK will continue to be relentless in its pursuit of erring government officials with its latest recognition.

The prestigious award, known as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, is named after the well-loved Philippine president

who died in a tragic plane crash in 1957. For this year, RMAF recognized three individuals and two organizations for their “greatness of spirit” and selfless work that inspired not just their countrymen but the entire Asia.

Aside from KPK, the Magsaysay laureates for 2013 were Filipino doctor Ernesto Domingo; Lahpai Seng Raw from Myanmar; Afghanistan's first female governor, Habiba Sarabi; and the Nepalese anti-human trafficking group Shakti Samuha.

Dr. Ernesto Domingo, a liver diseases specialist and medical researcher, was recognized for his advocacy for universal health care and research on early prevention of hepatitis B for babies.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Afghans find dumped bodies of 7 abducted soldiers

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—The badly beaten, bullet-riddled bodies of seven Afghan soldiers were found dumped in an eastern province Sunday, apparent victims of insurgents, authorities said. Local residents found the corpses next to each other in Andar district of Ghazni province, their hands chained behind their backs. The dead soldiers had been kidnapped at different times, with some abducted while they were on leave visiting relatives, said Mohammad Ali Ahmadi, deputy Ghazni governor. The victims hailed from northern provinces and were found with identification documents.

#### Bomb kills 9 soldiers in northwest Pakistan

**ISLAMABAD (AP)**—A roadside bomb targeting a passing Pakistani army convoy exploded Sunday, killing nine soldiers in a tribal region near the border with Afghanistan, authorities said. The roadside bomb exploded in a village near Miran Shah, the main town in the North Waziristan tribal area, the army said in a statement. It said the bombing killed nine soldiers, but did not say if anyone was wounded in the attack. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast, which happened in a region home to a mix of local Pakistani, Afghan and al-Qaida-linked foreign militants.

#### Philippine NBI chief quits

**MANILA, Philippines**—National Bureau of Investigation Director Nonnatus Rojas has tendered his irrevocable resignation, Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said on Monday. Rojas' resignation came after President Benigno Aquino III himself disclosed that charges are being readied against two NBI officials who had allegedly tipped off Naples about the warrant of arrest issued against last Aug. 14. While the resignation was irrevocable, De Lima said it would still be subject to the President's approval though she said she would recommend to Aquino not to accept it, saying that the NBI chief still has her trust. (*INQUIRER.net*)



## World

## Syria dismisses Obama as confused, moves troops

**DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)**—Syria on Sunday derided President Barack Obama's decision to hold off on punitive military strikes, but also took precautions by reportedly moving some troops and military equipment to civilian areas.

The Obama administration countered that its case for military action against the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad is getting stronger, saying it now has evidence that the toxic gas allegedly used in strikes on rebel-held areas was the nerve agent sarin.

The administration predicted Sunday it will obtain congressional backing for limited strikes. After days of edging closer to military action against Syria, Obama suddenly announced Saturday he would first seek approval from Congress, which gets back from summer

break Sept. 9.

Assad, in turn, tried to project confidence in his escalating showdown with the U.S., saying in comments carried by state media Sunday that Syria is "capable of confronting any external aggression."

From the sidelines, others exhorted the U.S. either to get involved or stay out of the brutal two-and-a-half-year-old conflict that has claimed more than 100,000 lives and displaced millions of people.

The Arab League at an emergency meeting in Cairo Sunday called on the United Nations and the international community to take "deterrent" measures under international law to stop the Syrian regime's crimes, but could not agree on whether to back U.S. military action.

Arab foreign ministers at the meeting in their closing state-



A demonstrator holds a placard mimicking U.S. President Barack Obama during a protest against possible U.S. forces' strike in Syria, in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, Sept. 1, 2013.

AP

position, which operates largely from exile, warned that Obama would give dictators in Iran, North Korea and elsewhere a free pass to commit atrocities if he does not punish Assad.

In the Syrian capital Damascus, some said the reprieve from Washington was only prolonging their torment.

A 29-year-old city resident said he reinforced his window with tape in anticipation of an imminent attack.

"I know people who prepared sleeping pills to give to their kids the night of the attack so they can sleep and not be scared," said the man, who only gave his first name, Nasib, for fear of reprisals.

Nearly two weeks after the alleged chemical weapons attacks on areas east and west of Damascus, many unanswered questions remain.

Neither the U.S. nor the Syrian regime, which blames rebels for the attacks, has publicly presented proof.

Syria's deputy foreign minister, Faysal Mikdad, claimed Sunday that Obama stepped back from his threat to attack because he lacks evidence of Syrian government involvement in the Aug. 21 attacks.

## Mandela discharged from hospital, returns home

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)**—Nelson Mandela went home in an ambulance on Sunday after nearly three months in a hospital that became the focus of a global outpouring of concern, but authorities said the health of the former South African president remained critical and sometimes unstable.

The return of the 95-year-old leader of the anti-apartheid movement to his home in an affluent neighborhood of Johannesburg allows his family to share time with him in a more intimate setting.

The office of South African President Jacob Zuma said Mandela will receive the same level of intensive care that he

did in the hospital, administered by the same doctors.

Zuma's office said the team of doctors treating Mandela, also known by his clan name Madiba, is "convinced that he will receive the same level of intensive care at his Houghton home that he received in Pretoria. His home has been reconfigured to allow him to receive intensive care there."

The statement also said: "If there are health conditions that warrant another admission to hospital in future, this will be done."

Mandela had been treated in a hospital in Pretoria, about 31 miles (50 kilometers) from Jo-

hannesburg, and the areas near the entrances to both the hospital and his home became makeshift shrines where people sang, prayed and left messages of support for a man who steered South Africa from white minority rule to democratic rule in a spirit of reconciliation that inspired the world.

Mandela was admitted to the hospital on June 8 for what the government described as a recurring lung infection. Legal papers filed by his family said he was on life support, and many South Africans feared the man widely viewed as the "father of the nation" was close to death.

ment held the Assad regime responsible for the "heinous" chemical attack, saying the perpetrators should be tried before an international court "like other war criminals."

At the Vatican, Pope Francis said he would stage a worldwide prayer vigil for Syria on Sept. 7 and called on all sides to

lay down their arms.

"My heart is deeply wounded by what is happening in Syria and anguished by the dramatic developments" on the horizon, Francis told crowds in St. Peter's Square, forgoing the usual religious theme of his weekly address.

The main Syrian political op-

## Egypt's Morsi to be tried for inciting violence

**CAIRO (AP)**—Egypt's top prosecutor on Sunday referred ousted Islamist President Mohammed Morsi to trial on charges of inciting the killing of opponents protesting outside his palace while he was in office, the state news agency said.

The military ousted Morsi on July 3 after millions took to the streets demanding that he step down. He's been held incommunicado since. Despite other accusations by prosecutors, the decision Sunday is Morsi's first referral to trial. No date was announced for the trial.

Morsi will be tried in a criminal court for allegedly inciting his supporters to kill at least 10 people, use violence and unlawfully detain and torture protesters. Fourteen other members of the Muslim Brotherhood will be tried with Morsi, including top aides and leading members of his political party.

The case dates back to one of the deadliest bouts of violence during Morsi's one year in office. At least 100,000 protesters gathered outside the presidential palace on Dec. 4, protesting a decree Morsi issued to protect his decisions from judicial oversight and a highly disputed draft constitution that was hurriedly adopted by the Islamist-dominated parliament.

Protesters demanded that Morsi call off a referendum scheduled days later. The next day, Islamist groups and supporters of Morsi attacked protesters who had camped outside the presidential palace, sparking deadly street battles that left at least 10 dead and sent chills among Morsi's opponents that he had relied on organized mobs to suppress the sit-in.

The state news agency said an investigation by prosecutors revealed that Morsi had asked the Republican Guard and the minister in charge of police to break up the sit-in, but they feared a bloody confrontation and declined. The agency said Morsi's aides then summoned their supporters to forcefully break up the sit-in.

At least one journalist was killed in these clashes and 54 civilians were held and tortured by Morsi supporters outside the palace, before they handed them over to the police.

Officials from the Brotherhood and its political party denied using violence to quell critics and said supporters were defending the palace. They accused opponents of starting the battles and forcing away police that had been guarding the area.

Those referred to trial with Morsi include the deputy leader of the Brotherhood's political

party, Essam el-Erian, who is currently in hiding. They also include leading Brotherhood member Mohammed el-Beltagy, who was arrested this week, as well as leading pro-Brotherhood youth leaders who were video-taped during the street clashes on the front lines.

Since Morsi's ouster, authorities have waged an intensive security crackdown on members of the Brotherhood. The crackdown followed the violent breakup of weeks-long sit-ins held in Cairo by Morsi supporters demanding his reinstatement that left hundreds dead.

The Islamist-drafted constitution was one of the most divisive issues during Morsi's time in office. It was suspended after the military ousted Morsi.

Meanwhile, in a sign that the interim authorities are forging ahead with their transition plan, Egypt's interim president appointed a 50-member committee Sunday dominated by liberal and secular public figures and politicians to review proposed amendments to the disputed Islamist-drafted constitution.

The committee is to begin discussions Sept. 8 on the changes proposed by a 10-member panel of judges, also appointed by interim President Adly Mansour. It is then expected to put the amended charter to a public vote within 60 days, presidential spokesman Ihab Badawi said.

## Iranian exiles report deaths in Iraq camp

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—Deadly violence erupted at a contentious Iranian exile camp inside Iraq early Sunday, leaving international observers scrambling to determine the cause of the bloodshed and the number of casualties.

The dissidents alleged that more than 50 were killed and accused the Iraqi government. Baghdad said an internal dispute was to blame. And the United Nations mission to Iraq, which has been closely involved in trying to find a viable long-term solution for the dissidents, acknowledges it does not have a clear picture what happened.

"The only thing we can confirm is there are a lot of casualties," said Eliana Nabaa, the spokeswoman for the U.N. mission to Iraq. "How, why, when? It's difficult to assess."

If the exiles' claims of the number of casualties are proved true, it would mark a stunning blow for the remaining core of

Mujahadeen-e-Khalq members still living at Camp Ashraf. The Saddam Hussein-era community northeast of Baghdad had been home to only about 100 members of the MEK before Sunday's events.

The MEK opposes Iran's clerical regime and until last year was labeled a terrorist group by the United States. Thousands of other MEK members who had been living in Camp Ashraf agreed to move to a Baghdad-area camp last year. They remain stuck in a country that does not want them as a process to resettle them abroad slowly drags on.

A statement issued by the U.N. in New York said Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon deplores events at Camp Ashraf that "reportedly left 47 killed," though the U.N. cautioned that figure had not been confirmed.

A spokesman for the MEK's parent organization, the Paris-

based National Council of Resistance of Iran, alleged that those killed died in a raid launched by Iraqi security forces early Sunday. The spokesman, Shahin Gobadi, said some of those killed were found with hands cuffed behind their backs.

Gobadi said that 52 people inside the camp were killed, and he provided photos allegedly from the scene that showed several people that appeared to have been killed with gunshots. It was not possible to independently verify the authenticity of the photos.

Iraqi officials offered conflicting accounts of what happened.

Ali al-Moussawi, a spokesman for Iraq's prime minister, said a preliminary investigation suggests several camp residents died as a result of infighting inside the facility. He denied that Iraqi forces were involved in the violence, and said authorities are still trying to determine the number of casualties.



Morsi



# Focus

**LOS ANGELES**—When Ted Sarandos put out the word that Netflix would begin producing original shows, he was swamped with story pitches that everyone else in Hollywood clearly had taken a pass on—including some scripts marked with coffee stains, smudged fingerprints and other telltale signs of rejection.

That all changed in 2011 after Netflix bought the political thriller “House of Cards” from “The Social Network” and “Fight Club” director David Fincher.

Overnight, the Internet video service began receiving A-list pitches, including the prison comedy “Orange Is the New Black” from “Weeds” creator Jenji Kohan, a mockumentary from “The Office” creator Ricky Gervais and a sci-fi drama from “The Matrix’s” Andy and Lana Wachowski.

Netflix received further validation this summer with 14 Emmy nominations, nine for “House of Cards,” three for the cult comedy “Arrested Development” and two for the horror series “Hemlock Grove.” None of the nominated episodes ever aired on broadcast or cable TV.

The man at the center of Netflix’s transformation from DVD-by-mail service to Internet TV network, Sarandos, as the chief content officer, seems to take pleasure in upending industry conventions—ordering an entire season of a series without asking for a pilot, withholding ratings and even throwing all of a new show’s episodes online at once, in one big bundle, so viewers don’t have to wait a week for the next installment of a series they love.

Some of his early accomplishments were less visible to consumers. He persuaded studios to change how they manufacture DVDs so the sturdier discs wouldn’t break as easily in the mail. As architect of Netflix’s content strategy, he cut new deals with the TV networks so their shows could appear on Netflix a season after their initial telecast, instead of waiting four years for a program to reach syndication.

This novel approach introduced new viewers to such critically acclaimed shows as AMC’s “Breaking Bad” and helped fuel ratings when it returned to prime time in the new season. Many credit Netflix with breathing fresh life into costly serialized TV dramas, which were threatened by declining DVD sales and audience attrition.

Sarandos’ boldest gambit yet is Netflix’s entry into original programming. As the industry’s newest deep-pocketed buyer, with an annual content budget of \$2 billion—and as much as 10 percent earmarked for original programming—Sarandos has the clout to lead the transformation of TV.

Spend any time with Sarandos and it’s clear that he remains a fan at heart. When he spots actor Jamie Foxx leaving Netflix’s Beverly Hills offices,



## Ted Sarandos upends Hollywood with Netflix revolution

By DAWN C. CHMIELEWSKI  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Sarandos is quick to herald the celebrity sighting.

An unabashed movie buff who once clerked at a video store, he keeps a giant etched-glass image of Marlon Brando from his favorite film, “The Godfather,” prominent in his office. He once described himself as a human algorithm because he loved recommending movies based on a customer’s previous rentals. And he recounts, with a hint of incredulity, the congratulations he received from such TV titans as “All in the Family” creator Norman Lear and “Charlie’s Angels” producer Leonard Goldberg after the news of Netflix’s first Emmy nominations.

“Ted has two feet on the ground,” Lear says. “He’s very rare.”

Still, in a town where people are known by the company they keep, Sarandos, 49, travels in powerful circles. Earlier this month, he and his wife, Nicole Avant—daughter of former Motown Records Chairman Clarence Avant—threw an 87th birthday celebration for crooner Tony Bennett in the lantern-lit backyard of their \$5-million Beverly Hills home.

The guest list included Queen Latifah, Sidney Poitier, John Travolta, Vince Vaughn, Will Arnett and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

Last year, he and Avant, former U.S. ambassador to the Bahamas, hosted a fundraiser for President Barack Obama that featured First Lady Michelle Obama as

### Flirting with historic highs

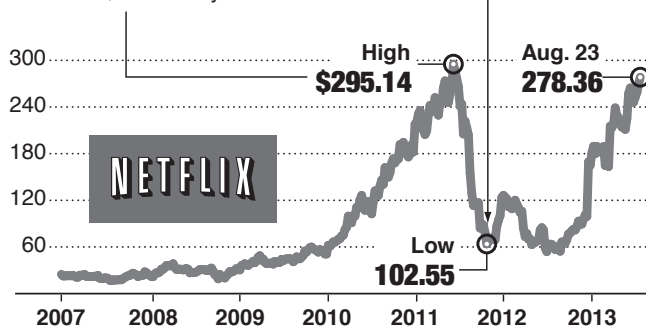
Despite missteps in 2011, Netflix’s stock has been rising on subscriber gains from global expansion and the addition of original series.

#### Netflix stock price

Weekly closing

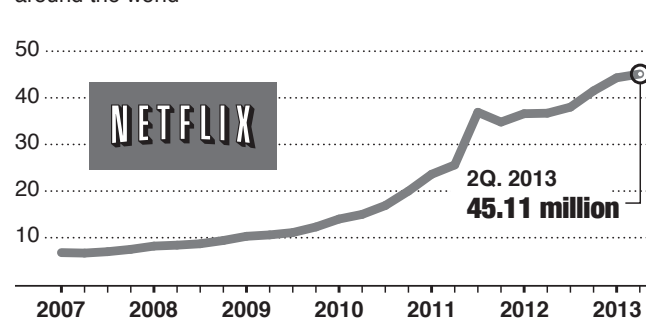
• Netflix’s stock was rising in tandem with its subscriber growth, reaching a high of almost \$300 in July 2011.

• Shares plunged when 810,000 U.S. customers canceled their subscriptions after a price hike and an aborted plan to separate its DVD business from its streaming service



#### Subscriber growth

The number of Netflix subscribers has grown from 6.8 million in early 2007 to more than 45 million at the end of June; it has made steady gains as the DVDs-by-mail company began offering an Internet streaming service and expanded into 40 countries around the world



Source: Netflix, Google Finance  
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

© 2013 MCT

the main attraction. They were among the president’s top 2012 campaign bundlers, raising \$500,000, according to the Cen-

ter for Responsive Politics.

“He loves people and he loves entertainment,” says “Arrested Development” creator Mitch Hurwitz, who compares Sarandos to the late NBC executive Brandon Tartikoff and Universal Studios chief Lew Wasserman. “They really understood artists and loved the medium. Ted is one of the few people I’ve met who has that quality.”

Consider the way he acquired “House of Cards.”

When Fincher was pitching his first television series, Sarandos was invited to meetings with representatives from other major television networks. He passed.

Instead, he asked for his own meeting with Fincher, who at the time was working on the 2011 film “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo.”

“I knew the stakes were high, in terms of the size of the bet,” Sarandos says. “But if we believe all those things we say we believe in—that television is going to be mostly on-demand and mostly delivered (digitally)—then someone had to lead that charge. It had to be something as good or better than anything on TV.”

Sarandos studied Netflix data to determine how many subscribers watched political dramas such as Aaron Sorkin’s “The West Wing” or the BBC’s original 1990 “House of Cards.” He identified the die-hard fans of the director’s films and the series’ proposed star, Kevin Spacey.

On the strength of that projected audience, Beau Willimon’s script and Fincher’s track record, Sarandos walked into the director’s West Hollywood offices with a groundbreaking proposition: Netflix would commit to not one but two full seasons at a cost of \$100 million.

Other networks had asked to see a pilot from Fincher before considering the series, a prospect the director didn’t relish after receiving commitments from Spacey and Robin Wright.

“There were 100 reasons not to do this with Netflix,” Sarandos says. “We had to give them one great reason to do it with Netflix.”

Commissioning its own shows was one way Netflix could differentiate itself from competitors and grow its subscriber base. Its Internet streaming service now boasts 38 million members in 40 countries, who watch about a billion hours of TV shows and movies each month—a dramatic rise from the 6.7 million customers it had in the DVD-centric days of June 2007. The company reported net income of \$29.5 million for the latest quarter ended June 30, nearly quintuple its profit for the same period in 2012. Revenue shot up to \$1.1 billion, up 20 percent from a year ago.

Netflix’s first original series, “Lilyhammer,” starring “The Sopranos” mainstay Steven Van Zandt, debuted with little fanfare in February 2012. The experiment validated Sarandos’ instinct that subscribers liked getting episodes in one binge-happy bundle. For “House of Cards,” Fincher didn’t need persuading when Sarandos said Netflix would release all 13 “House of Cards” episodes at once.

“My attitude was, that sounds awesome,” Fincher says. “As television becomes more and more like literature, I’d love to be able to set the book by the nightstand when I want to. It seemed like the natural progression of things.”

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences anticipated “House of Cards” and the Netflix moment six years ago when it allowed Web series to be eligible for Emmys.

“Television no longer refers to the box sitting in your living room—television refers to storytelling,” academy Chairman Bruce Rosenblum says. “The method by which our viewers experience those stories is truly irrelevant.”

None of this has stopped criticism from rival networks. Executives from HBO and Fox have taken potshots at Netflix, especially for flouting the accepted industry practice of releasing ratings.

“Overnight ratings work against quality on television,” Sarandos says. “That’s why I don’t want to adopt the one convention that I think is anti-quality.”

Ratings, he insists, are irrelevant for a company that neither courts advertisers nor collects fees for cable or satellite TV subscribers.



## Overdrive

## ActiveHybrid 3 is BMW's grand experiment

By MARK PHELAN  
DETROIT FREE PRESS

The BMW ActiveHybrid 3 sport sedan is a little more powerful, a little faster, and a little more fuel-efficient than its non-hybrid cousin, the 335i. It also weighs 231 pounds more and costs about \$6,500 more.

Is it worth it? It's a close call.

The ActiveHybrid 3 is the first of the world's great sport sedans to use electricity to improve fuel efficiency and performance.

The ActiveHybrid 3 adds an electric motor and lithium-ion battery to the 3.0-liter straight-six engine that's a mainstay of BMW's lineup. In a nifty bit of packaging, the electric motor fits in the transmission, replacing the torque converter used by the nonhybrid version of the gearbox. The battery goes in the trunk.

Prices for the ActiveHybrid 3—ActiveHybrid is BMW's name for its hybrids—start at \$49,700. I tested a car loaded with navigation, Harman Kardon audio, metallic paint, heated seats, blind-spot detection and more. It stickered at \$60,525. All prices exclude delivery charges.

Hybrid systems can be designed with several different objectives. Some—the Lincoln MKZ and Lexus ES 300h, for instance—aim for the highest possible Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy rating. Others, like the Buick Regal with eAssist, boost fuel efficiency more moderately at a lower cost. Still others try to improve fuel economy and performance.

The ActiveHybrid 3 falls into the third camp, along with luxury hybrids like the Infiniti Q 50, Lexus GS 450h and Mercedes-Benz E400. All three offer nice mpg boosts, but not headline grabbers like



BMW/MCT

The 2013 BMW ActiveHybrid 3 sport sedan is a little more powerful, a little faster, and a little more fuel-efficient than its nonhybrid cousin, the 335i.

## NUTS &amp; BOLTS

## 2013 BMW ActiveHybrid 3

- Rating: Three out of four stars
  - Rear-wheel-drive five-passenger hybrid sport sedan
  - Power: 335 horsepower from 3.0-liter turbocharged straight-six engine and electric motor
  - Transmission: Eight-speed automatic
  - Reasons to buy: Fuel economy, performance, looks
  - Shortcomings: Intermittent electronic fault, price, trunk size
  - Base price: \$49,700
  - Price as tested: \$60,525
- All prices exclude destination charges.

the Lincoln's 45 mpg.

The ActiveHybrid 3's price falls within the range of hybrid luxury and sport sedans.

I suspect we'll see more cars like the ActiveHybrid 3 and Regal eAssist as fuel economy standards rise and automakers look to improve without pulling out all the stops necessary to score points with hypermiling Prius owners.

The 3's hybrid system works well. It shuts the engine off and restarts reasonably smoothly in stop-and-go traffic, at stoplights and when coasting. It can propel the car on electricity alone for

2.5 miles at 25 mph and up to 45 mph for short distances.

The hybrid accelerates to 60 mph in 5.2 seconds, compared to the 335i's 5.4, according to BMW's figures. The EPA rates the hybrid's combined city/highway fuel economy at 28 mpg versus 26 for the 335i.

I drove an ActiveHybrid 3 from Detroit to Toronto and back in hot weather and traffic that varied from clear sailing to rush-hour congestion. The system performed well. It ran the air conditioning capably when the engine was stopped and delivered con-

siderably better fuel economy than I would've gotten from a similar BMW 335i sedan. I averaged 33.8 mpg on the way to Toronto and 34.1 coming home, despite spending some time in stop-and-go traffic. My route combined highway, city and country driving.

My real-world mpg beat the ActiveHybrid's EPA-rated 33 mpg highway rating, and was considerably better than the 28-mpg estimate for combined city and highway driving.

The 3 mates that fuel economy with plenty of power and confident acceleration. The car shares most of the 3-series' virtues and sleek design. A few badges are the only visible signs it's a hybrid.

The big battery reduces luggage space from 13 cubic feet to 10. The hybrid system also adds more than 200 pounds to the curb weight, compared to a base 335i. The extra weight makes the car feel a bit less nimble.

The ActiveHybrid 3 I tested had an intermittent electronic fault. The blind-spot detector stopped working several times. It eventually resumed.

## Toyota says new Prius, fuel cell car due in 2015

**YPSILANTI, Mich. (AP)—**Toyota has two important vehicles coming in 2015: the next-generation Prius hybrid and the company's first hydrogen fuel cell car.

Satoshi Ogiso, a top Toyota engineer who helped develop the original Prius 20 years ago, said Wednesday that the new Prius will get significantly better fuel economy than its current 50 miles per gallon. It will have an advanced battery, motor and gas engine combination that is smaller, lighter and cheaper than the current version.

Ogiso wouldn't reveal the fuel economy, but he's hoping to at least match the 10-percent gains Toyota has gotten in the last three generations of Priuses. A 10 percent gain would get the

Prius to 55 mpg in combined city and highway driving.

"The challenge to continue to improve at this rate, to beat your own record, becomes very difficult but makes it all the more motivating," Ogiso told media at an event near Detroit. "I can tell you that we are very motivated to beat our record."

The new Prius will ride on a new, lower chassis to improve its handling and aerodynamics. It will also have a nicer interior. Ogiso wouldn't say how much it might cost, but a less expensive hybrid system could help bring down the Prius's \$24,000 price tag.

Toyota hopes the revamped Prius will help it reach its goal of selling 5 million hybrids in the U.S. by 2016. As of July, the

company had sold more than 2 million Toyota and Lexus hybrids, including 1.4 million Prius compact cars, Prius C sub-compacts and Prius V wagons.

Bob Carter, Toyota's senior vice president of automotive operations in the U.S., said its hybrids have come a long way since the Prius debuted in the U.S. in 2000. Just over 5,500 Prius hybrids were sold that year; last year, the company sold 236,000 Prius family vehicles.

"Arguably, Prius is more than a car. It's become a pop culture icon," Carter said.

Carter added that even as the company introduces other technologies, including hydrogen fuel cell and electric cars, hybrids will remain at the core of

the company's offerings for at least another 50 years.

"You can take any fuel efficient technology and extend the range and make it even more efficient with a hybrid," he said.

Ogiso said more details about the hydrogen fuel cell car will come early next year. So far, there is only one other commercially available hydrogen fuel cell car in the U.S.: Honda's FCX Clarity, which is leased in limited numbers in Southern California.

Zero-emission fuel cell cars are not likely to be big sellers until there are more hydrogen fueling stations on U.S. roads. But Ogiso said Toyota is committed to the technology and expects to sell "tens of thousands" of them through 2030.

## Turning ignition to 'off' can help with runaway car

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** In one of your recent columns, someone wrote regarding a runaway Grand Marquis. Shifting into neutral works well, but I wonder if turning off the key would lock the steering wheel. It does this when I shut off my car in the driveway.

**ANSWER:** Absolutely not. The ignition key can be turned to the "off" position but not to the "lock" position, which would lock the steering column, unless the shift lever is in "park." Thus, the best ways to deal with some type of stuck throttle/unintended acceleration are to shift into neutral to disengage the drivetrain completely and/or turn the key to "off" to shut off the engine. Even with the engine not running, the brake vacuum reservoir or hydraulic accumulator will supply several applications of power brake assist to help you stop the vehicle.

One more very important point: Motor vehicles have five "engines." The engine under the hood converts the energy in fuel into heat through combustion, and combustion into power driving the wheels. The other four "engines" are located at each wheel and are called brakes. Each brake converts the energy of motion into heat through friction and dissipates that heat into the atmosphere.

The four brake "engines" are cumulatively more powerful than the underhood engine. This means that even with the throttle open, the brakes still have the potential to slow the vehicle.

**Q: Help! What's this high-pitched hum that happens to my 2005 Ford Escape when it gets cooler? Didn't hear it all summer but now it's back. The only time it stops is when I step on the brakes. My mechanic brother says he's never heard of that. What should I check to stop the squealing? Can I drive with one foot on the brakes and the other on the gas?**

**P.S. My brother's advice is to turn up the radio.**

**A:** Stop the squealing? Let go of your brother's neck! Here are several possible sources for the noise: brake pads, wheel bearing/hub, serpentine belt, and brake vacuum reservoir/check valve.

Brake pad wear tabs will begin to squeal lightly when the pads are worn to the point of needing replacement. This vibration is dampened when the brakes are applied and the squeal stops. This is not typically a seasonal issue.

A worn wheel bearing or hub assembly will tend to "hum" under certain conditions like turning and can be dampened by braking. Again, this issue is not typically sensitive to ambient temperature.

In cooler conditions, the alternator might need to work harder to provide current for the heater fan, defroster, headlights, etc. The additional load on the serpentine belt might be causing slippage and squealing while under power.

Worn, stiff or cracked hoses or fittings in the power brake vacuum system, including the vacuum reservoir and check valve, might be "whistling" until you apply the brakes. The rubber hoses and diaphragm in the reservoir might be sensitive to cooler temperatures.

While I'm a fan of left-foot braking, I don't think it's a good idea in this case since you'd have to keep a bit of brake pressure on the pedal to stop the noise, which could lead to brake drag, excess heat and even higher volume on the radio necessary to cover your screams as the brakes fade!

**Q: I have a 1997 Mazda B4000 with a 4.0-liter V-6 engine and auto transmission. I have a "check engine" light with code 1443 coming up. I have replaced the vapor canister, purge valve solenoid, sensor and all the hoses. The truck's performance is unaffected but the light still comes back on after reset. Any idea about what is causing this?**

**A:** Check for low engine vacuum or some type of vacuum leak between the intake manifold and the purge flow sensor. With the engine idling, pull off the hose at the sensor and plug it with your thumb. Is there strong, constant vacuum? If not, that could cause this issue.

*Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.*



## Life & Style

# David Frost, known for Nixon interview, dies at 74

**LONDON (AP)**—David Frost had sparred with Richard Nixon for hours, recording a series of interviews with the former president three years after he stepped down in disgrace over Watergate. But as the sessions drew to a close, Frost realized he still lacked something: an acknowledgement by Nixon that he had been wrong.

Nixon had admitted making mistakes, but Frost put down his clipboard and pressed his subject on whether that was enough. Americans, he said, wanted to hear him own up to his misdeeds and acknowledge abusing the power of the White House.

“Unless you say it, you’re going to be haunted for the rest of your life,” the British broadcaster told Nixon.

What came next were some of the most extraordinary comments ever made by a politician on television. For Frost, who died Saturday, it was the signature moment of an illustrious television career that spanned half a century and included interviews with a long list of the world’s most powerful and famous, including virtually every British prime minister and U.S. president of his time.

A natural at TV hosting, he seemed to effortlessly inhabit the worlds of entertainment and politics. As a satirist, a game show host and a journalist, he disarmed others with unfailing affability and personal charm.

“He had an extraordinary ability to draw out the interviewee, knew exactly where the real story lay and how to get at it,” former British Prime Minister Tony Blair said. Frost, he added, “was also a thoroughly kind and good-natured man.”

Blair’s former communications chief, Alastair Campbell, added on Twitter that Frost was one of the best interviewers “because his sheer niceness could lull you into saying things you didn’t intend.”

Frost, 74, died of a heart attack Saturday night aboard the Queen Elizabeth cruise ship, where he was due to give a speech, his family said in a statement sent to the BBC. The cruise company Cunard said its vessel left the English port of Southampton on Saturday for a 10-day cruise in the Mediterranean.

Prime Minister David Cameron, one of the first public figures to send condolences, called Frost “both a friend and a fearsome interviewer.” BBC executives lauded him as “a titan of broadcasting”—both for beginning a tradition of satirizing politics and for establishing a more confrontational interview style.

Frost began his career almost fresh out of college as the host of an early 1960s BBC satirical news show “That Was The Week That Was,” then a pio-



David Frost, left, talks with former President Richard Nixon in this March 1977 b/w file photo prior to the taping of his interview with the former President.

neering program that ruthlessly lampooned politicians. The show gained a wide following, and Frost’s signature greeting, “Hello, good evening and welcome,” was often mimicked.

Frost was popular in Britain

and was gaining a foothold on U.S. television, but it wasn’t until 1977, when he secured the interviews with Nixon, that he became internationally known.

The interviews were groundbreaking for both Frost and the

ex-president, who was trying to salvage his reputation. At the time, they were the most widely watched news interviews in TV history.

“That was totally off-the-cuff,” Frost later said of his

question that prompted Nixon’s contrite comments. “That was totally ad-lib. In fact, I threw my clipboard down just to indicate that it was not prepared in any way. ... I just knew at that moment that Richard Nixon was more vulnerable than he’d ever be in his life. And I knew I had to get it right.”

In the end, Nixon relented.

“I let the American people down, and I have to carry that burden with me for the rest of my life,” he said.

The face-off went on to spawn a hit play and in 2008, a new generation was introduced to Frost’s work with the Oscar-nominated movie “Frost/Nixon,” starring Michael Sheen as Frost and Frank Langella as Nixon.

Frost was born on April 7, 1939, in Kent, England, the son of a Methodist preacher.

The young Frost began television hosting while still a student at Cambridge University, and soon after graduation he was approached by a BBC producer to front “That Was The Week That Was.”

He went on to host a sketch show called “The Frost Report” and became a regular figure on U.S. television. Behind the camera, Frost also co-founded two television companies, Lon-

don Weekend Television and TV-am, churning out a prolific schedule of programs.

Over the years, his interviewees included a wide-ranging roster of politicians, from Russia’s Mikhail Gorbachev to Pakistan’s Benazir Bhutto, as well as leading entertainment figures such as Orson Welles and the Beatles.

He was the only person to have interviewed the last eight British prime ministers and the seven U.S. presidents in office from 1969 to 2008. Besides the Nixon interviews, one of the more memorable moments included a tense interview with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher over the sinking of the Argentine warship during the war in the Falklands.

In later years, Frost kept up his probing questioning of political leaders, although some came to criticize him for being “too nice” to his subjects. Somewhat incongruously, he also hosted a game show called “Through the Keyhole” that spied on the homes of celebrities from 1987 to 2008.

“His sense of humor shone through everything he did,” Richard Brock, a producer who worked with Frost at Al-Jazeera, told the broadcaster. “He wasn’t all heavyweight, political interviews. He really got a kick out of some of the lighter stuff.”

Frost, who wrote about a dozen books, won numerous awards and was knighted in 1993. Most recently he was hosting programs for Al-Jazeera English, where he had worked since its launch several years ago.

He is survived by his wife, Carina, and their three sons.

## David Frost’s most memorable interviews

**LONDON (AP)**—Veteran British broadcaster David Frost set a milestone in TV history when he drew extraordinary admissions from disgraced former President Richard Nixon in 1977. Armed with ambition, talent, and a remarkable contacts book, Frost sat down with many other world leaders and the biggest names in show business over half a century. Here are some highlights from some of his most prominent interviews:

### RICHARD NIXON, 1977

Over almost 30 hours of interviews with Nixon, who resigned three years earlier in disgrace over the Watergate scandal, Frost pressed the ex-president to acknowledge and apologize for his wrongdoing in office. Frost managed to get the following remarkable responses.

Frost: “I think people need to hear it, and I think unless you say it, you’re going to be haunted for the rest of your life.”

Nixon: “I let down my friends. I let down the country. I let down our system of government and the dreams of all those young people that ought to get into government but will think it is all too corrupt and the rest. ... And I have to carry that burden with me for the rest of my life.”

Frost: “So what you are saying is that there are certain situations ... where the president can decide that it’s in the best interest of the nation or something, and do something illegal?”

Nixon: “Well when the president does it that means that it is not illegal.”

Frost: “By definition?”

Nixon: “Exactly.”

### MUHAMMAD ALI, 1974

Frost interviewed the legendary heavyweight boxer, then 32, inside a boxing ring, ahead of his landmark fight with George Foreman, when most people wrongly thought Ali would lose. But Ali was animated and brimming with confidence in the interview.

Ali: “I think it is befitting that I go out of boxing just like I came in, defeating a big, bad monster that nobody could destroy... Listen David, when I meet this man, if you think the world was surprised when Nixon resigned, wait till I whip Foreman’s behind.”

The boxer continued, partly talking directly to the camera, then standing up to caricature Foreman: “Listen, George Foreman, people are afraid of George Foreman. They talk about how hard he hits. The world has been deceived. You listen to me. You listen to me now, I never told you wrong.

The man don’t hit hard.”

### MARGARET THATCHER, 1985

In 1985 Frost grilled the prime minister about the sinking of the Argentine ship *Belgrano* by a British submarine that killed 323 sailors during the Falklands conflict.

As Frost pressed on with questions about what had happened, a visibly ruffled Thatcher sternly defended her decision to attack the ship. After being confronted with a barrage of questions, Thatcher finally said in frustration: “Do you think, Mr. Frost, that I spend my days prowling round the pigeon holes of the Ministry of Defense to look at the chart of each and every ship? If you do you must be bonkers.”

### MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, 1993

In an interview with the former Soviet Union leader, Frost asked about communism, his legacy, and his relationship with, and views of, Thatcher.

Gorbachev: “It was not too easy to begin with ... but I felt from the start I could deal with her. I regarded her as an outstanding woman and a major political force. I was far from sharing all her opinions. ... Many sharp words were exchanged. I could never agree to

the way she felt about nuclear weapons. She was too attracted to nuclear weapons.”

Frost: “Were you alike in character, do you think?”

Gorbachev, after a pause and a shrug: “That’s difficult to answer. I think it’s up to you to try to answer that. But she was an interesting human being.”

### TONY BLAIR, 2002

Frost seemed to catch the British prime minister off-guard when he asked an unexpected question about his relationship with President George W. Bush in an interview.

Frost: “Do you pray together?”

Blair: “Pray together? How do you mean?”

Frost: “Do you say prayers together for peace, you and the president?”

Blair: “Well we don’t say prayers together, no, but I’m sure he in his way hopes for peace. I hope for peace too.”

### BILL CLINTON

In an undated clip shown by the BBC Sunday, Frost was seen interviewing the former U.S. president about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Frost: “Did you love her?”

Clinton responded: “No. I don’t think that’s what that was about. On either side. But I liked her very much.”

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# Final answer: Being on TV's 'Millionaire' was fun

By FRAZIER MOORE  
AP TELEVISION WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Why, oh why, didn't I know the president of Nigeria's name?

I had swept through nine questions and logged \$60,000 by the time I made my fatal guess as a contestant on "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire."

The correct name of Nigeria's leader? It's Goodluck Jonathan. My good luck had run out.

"Millionaire" host Cedric "The Entertainer" dispatched me with a sympathetic farewell. The audience applauded warmly. I exited the stage. My moment in the spotlight and my bid to be a millionaire was over.

The loss I felt was only slightly eased by the fact that this was all for practice. No actual prize money was ever at stake. I had been invited to take part in a rehearsal show that will never be aired and no one will ever see. (Which means no one will ever know my lame-brain final answer.)

On September 2, the new season of "Millionaire" premieres for real (check local listings for time and channel), ushering in new host Cedric "The Entertainer," who follows Meredith Vieira's 11 seasons and, of course, Regis Philbin, who emceed the prime-time ABC version from 2000 to 2002.

The "Millionaire" run-through I appeared on was one of a couple Cedric would host just days before beginning the real-deal, five-a-day, five-days-per-week regimen that yields a season's requisite 175 shows in only 35 production days.

Cedric's credits include the "Barbershop" films, "The Original Kings of Comedy," a Broadway revival of David Mamet's "American Buffalo," and his current TV Land sitcom "The Soul Man," along with his thriving standup career. Clearly, he's a seasoned pro, complete with dapper wardrobe and signature trove of jaunty headwear.

Even so, hosting a game show calls for special skills, as he noted after our taping earlier this month on the "Millionaire" stage in upper Manhattan.

"You're standing beside someone who's playing for real money while you're entertaining an audience that's watching from the sidelines," he said. "You want to be funny for the audience, but you don't want to throw the contestant off."

Cedric isn't privy to answers to the questions he asks, which suits him fine.

"It's not really my job to act like I'm the smartest guy in the room, so I can relax," he said. "But you have to know the game. They're serious about the rules."

Yes, they—the producers—are very serious. "Millionaire" even has a production attorney, Scott Greenberg, whose job includes making sure those rules are obeyed.

"There can't be even the appearance of cheating," he said.

Greenberg gives each contestant a detailed briefing as part of the lengthy preparation process.

"Be careful how you use the word 'jump,'" he cautioned me at one point, referring to the newfangled life-line ("Phone a Friend is gone) where you don't know an answer and want



This Aug. 16, 2013, photo provided by Disney-ABC Domestic TV shows Associated Press writer Frazier Moore, left, with host Cedric "The Entertainer," during a test show of the game show "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" in New York.

to bail. "If you say, 'Cedric, I think I'm gonna have to jump this question,' that may trigger an actual jump. So try not to use the word 'jump' unless you really mean it."

Another briefing comes from executive producer Rich Sirop, whose tenure with the show goes back to 2000, when he was hired to answer the phones for one day.

Sirop shares strategies on how to best decipher a question. He should know: He leads the team that, isolated from the rest of the staff to ensure security, writes the questions—about

3,000 of them each season.

I guess I didn't listen well enough to what he had to say.

A question that stymied me had an obvious answer among its four choices, which happened to be the names of four department store chains. Never mind what the question was, Target seemed to scream "Choose me" over, say, Sears or Walmart. But I missed that verbal target and, instead, jumped the question.

For anyone who's somehow unfamiliar with "Millionaire" (which currently airs in 95 percent of the country and captures

a daily viewership of more than 3 million), the game is played with a series of multiple-choice questions each of which, when correctly answered, has a monetary value. If the player clears the first 10 questions, the final four lead to really big money—like a million bucks.

But just one incorrect response sends you packing with a thousand-dollar consolation prize.

That wasn't going to be me. As I was introduced by Cedric at the top of the show and greeted with applause from the studio audience, I positioned

myself across from him at the Plexiglas countertop, facing the huge video screen where my questions would appear. I was briefed, mic-ed and powdered. I felt jittery, sure, but I was primed to go all the way.

The first question was a gimme.

"Which of these hair-related phrases," Cedric asked, "is used to describe someone who suddenly starts acting crazy?"

The answer was (B): "Wig Out." I had scored a fast (make-believe) \$7,000.

Thinking out loud is recommended by the producers. Not only does it help the player parse the trickier questions, it also builds suspense among viewers.

So I even agonized theatrically over all the options seeking which Washington landmark was described by Eleanor Roosevelt as "that simple shaft, so tall and straight"—a question that, of course, gave Cedric a mile-wide opportunity for cracking wise.

After answering the Washington Monument, I was (mock) richer by \$1,000.

By then I was enjoying a surge in confidence. Nothing could stand in my way, I told myself, as my (pretend) earnings mounted.

"What would you do if you won all this money?" Cedric asked me just before the question that ended it all.

"I'd buy a collection of hats like you've got," I fired back smartly.

"You would look smooth in this, brother," Cedric chuckled.

Oh, well. It was fun to pretend.

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—For Michael Jackson, a trip to the doctor's office sometimes wasn't just paying a visit to a health care provider. It was paying a visit to a trusted friend.

A jury has been hearing for weeks about the pop superstar's close relationship with many of his medical providers—spending Christmas with some doctors, inviting others to spend time at Neverland Ranch. His primary care doctor served as the best man at the singer's second wedding, to a woman who worked in his dermatologist's office and became a frequent companion on his medical visits.

Jackson's relationship with his final doctor, Conrad Murray, is important to the negligent hiring case, but in the process jurors are getting an inside look at celebrity health care—after-hours visits, house calls and false names on records and prescriptions—that are meant to preserve confidentiality but can present ethical challenges for doctors. They have also heard a detailed portrait of medical history, including painful burns and the skin conditions vitiligo and discoid

## Jury hears of Jackson's friendships with doctors

lupus that led Jackson to feel he was disfigured.

Other practitioners have recounted stories of telling Jackson they wouldn't comply with his requests for painkillers or the powerful anesthetic that would kill him in his bedroom in 2009.

The parade of testimony from Jackson's doctors is central to the defense case being mounted by AEG Live LLC, the company promoting Jackson's ill-fated comeback concerts, which is being sued by the singer's mother. Katherine Jackson says the company hired Murray to help her son prepare for his "This Is It" shows. In the process, her attorneys say, AEG Live created a conflict of interest that compelled Murray to provide her son with the anesthetic propofol as a sleep aid in order to preserve his anticipated \$150,000 a month payday.

AEG contends it is not liable for the superstar's death but that it was his own personal choices that led to his demise.

Stories the jurors have heard throughout the 18-week trial

about Jackson and his doctors:

■ Two of Jackson's doctors, Scott Saunders and William Van Valin II, went to Jackson's Neverland Ranch near Santa Barbara, according to testimony from Saunders. Saunders recounted how Jackson occasionally showed up at his home unannounced and sent him and his family Christmas presents one year. Saunders said Jackson would sometimes invite him out to Neverland and would ask him to stay longer so they could just talk.

■ Jackson occasionally lived in the garage, converted into a guest room, of Dr. Alimrad Farshchian when the Miami physician was treating the singer from 2001 until 2003. Farshchian placed an implant in Jackson's abdomen to block the euphoric effects of opioid drugs so he would stop taking them. Farshchian said he traveled with Jackson and spent Christmas with him in 2002.

■ Several witnesses who described Jackson's medical treatments said the singer required after-hours visits to avoid pa-

parazzi scrutiny. His records were sometimes filed under the names Omar Arnold, Michael Jefferson or other aliases and prescriptions were also sometimes placed in false names to try to protect his privacy.

■ Jackson's second wife, Debbie Rowe, worked for the singer's longtime dermatologist Dr. Arnold Klein and would accompany the singer to many of his medical appointments throughout the 1980s and 1990s. Rowe said Jackson was intensely afraid of pain and required numerous procedures to treat his vitiligo and try to repair damage to his scalp after it was burned while filming a Pepsi commercial in 1984. When Rowe and Jackson married in Australia in 1996, another of the singer's physicians, Dr. Allan Metzger, served as their best man.

■ Rowe said Klein and a now-retired plastic surgeon, Dr. Steven Hoefflin, competed with each other for who could give Jackson the best painkillers. Rowe said Jackson trusted his doctors. "Michael had a very

low pain tolerance and his fear of pain was incredible," she said. "I think the doctors took advantage of him that way."

■ Dental anesthesiologist Dr. Christine Quinn said in 1998 or 1999 Jackson summoned her to a Beverly Hills hotel and asked her to give him propofol to help him sleep. She said she refused.

■ Dr. Gordon Sasaki, who tried to repair damage to Jackson's scalp in 2003, said he accepted the singer's invitation to go to Neverland Ranch after they met. Sasaki however refused to prescribe any more painkillers to Jackson after the singer requested Percocet three times in a short time span. Sasaki said he turned over Jackson's pain management to Klein.

■ Dr. Stephen Gordon, a Las Vegas plastic surgeon, said Jackson requested that he give him a shot of the painkiller Demerol "for the road" after a procedure in 2003. Gordon refused and didn't see Jackson again for another four years, when he returned with Murray. Jackson acted as if he didn't know Gordon, the doctor said,

and Murray took charge of the visit, driving Jackson to the office and paying for it when it was over. "There was nothing usual or customary about what he was doing," Gordon said of Murray.

Attorneys for Jackson's mother have acknowledged that Jackson struggled with painkillers throughout his life, but have said most of his prescriptions were tied to medical procedures. AEG Live's lawyers contend Jackson showed signs that he was doctor shopping, hid his addiction to painkillers and lied about his medical history.

A close relationship between a doctor and patients is not inherently wrong, said Arthur Caplan, the director of the Division of Medical Ethics at NYU Langone Medical Center. He said it often occurs in small towns, and wealthy patients can sometimes afford to hire their own doctors. The problem occurs when the doctor's judgment is clouded and their treatment is affected.

"If you can't say no or stop, you probably are too far down the friendship highway," Caplan said.



# Musician turns 9/11 survivor stories into song

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A dozen years after 9/11, an American musician has turned memories of grief into survivor songs—some of them surprisingly joyous.

Composer and pianist Jake Heggie said Sunday that his new album titled “here/after (songs of lost voices)” is meant “to create a sense of hope and newness that can come from the grief. Otherwise, the people who did it win.”

The singers, including baritone Nathan Gunn and soprano Talise Trevigne, tell the stories of 9/11 survivors from around the country, expressing feelings about lost loved ones as they sort belongings left behind. One set of songs is called “Pieces of 9-11.”

A firefighter from Texas Task Force 1 who had combed through the smoking ground zero rubble says, “And everything belonged to somebody/To somebody gone/And we all belonged to each other/From that moment on.”

Songwriter Gene Scheer, a Grammy award nominee, listened to real people to find words for the lyrics.



This undated photo provided by composer Jake Heggie shows the cover art for his new album titled “Here/After (songs of lost voices).”

Adults and children shared sometimes whimsical stories about dead spouses, fathers and friends—even about the pregnant woman who perished on United Flight 93 that crashed in a Pennsylvania field after passen-

gers fought back the terrorists.

Her surviving husband faces the emotionally tricky questions, in the words of one song: “What’s beyond your anger? What’s beyond your sorrow?”

The double CD will be re-

leased Oct. 21, by PentaTone Classics.

The stories from 9/11 are not static—etched in history, said the composer.

“A dozen years later, stories continue to emerge, evolve and yearn to be told,” said Heggie, who lives in San Francisco and relied on New York resident Scheer to interview survivors.

They all have one thing in common: None is a New York resident, though the city is the site of their loss.

There’s a reason, Heggie said in a telephone interview.

“I wasn’t in New York, I didn’t see the smoke and destruction, and yet my life changed that day—everyone’s life changed that day,” said Heggie.

But people outside the city were somewhat left out “because there was an ownership of grief taken by New Yorkers—and of course they had a right to it.”

So after Sept. 11, 2001, he said, he looked for ways “outsiders” like him could mourn and grieve—and hope.

“That’s why I wanted to write this piece,” Heggie said.

## Opportunities for kindness are waiting all around us

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** Congratulations to “Trying to Be Nice” (June 6) for her random acts of kindness. The world needs more of it. Let me point out, however, that being nice isn’t just about doing specific charitable tasks. It is something that applies every moment of every day, and as the axiom says, “Charity begins at home.”

It can mean paying a compliment to a family member or friend, refraining from a hurtful comment at work or in school, smiling to a stranger on the street, willingly doing a chore at home (even if it’s “not my job”), or something as simple as cleaning up one’s own mess after lunch. To quote another axiom: Little things mean a lot.

RHEAL IN OTTAWA, CANADA

**DEAR RHEAL:** I agree. Sometimes they can be the simplest things, opportunities we take for granted that are right in front of us. I was touched by the responses I received from readers suggesting other acts of kindness:

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Animal shelters often need volunteers to walk dogs. Rescue organizations could use foster families for pets, or even pet food donations or supplies. Veterans organizations such as the Wounded Warrior Project welcome volunteers to help with events, or mentor or assist vets in writing a resume.

If you sign up with Volunteers of America, they can match you with organizations that suit your skills—reading to the elderly in nursing homes, etc. Youth shelters can sometimes use volunteers to help teens learn basic life skills such as balancing a checkbook, smart grocery shopping or meal planning.

Around the holidays, my husband and I visit the cemetery and clean/maintain headstones that look neglected, especially those of veterans.

LYNN IN BOTHELL, WASH.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** As an avid teenage volunteer, I have some suggestions! Donating your hair to Locks of Love is one of my favorite acts of kindness. Your hair will help make wigs for women with cancer. Donating blood is another great way to help strangers.

If you prefer to give your time instead, nursing homes are always looking for people to play bingo with patients. Shelters for women and children need volunteers to come and play with the children, so the moms have time to talk with counselors.

SARA IN SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** “Trying” could join a neighborhood watch or help with Meals on Wheels, take the newspaper to an elderly person’s front porch, or start a recycling program in her neighborhood.

LUCY IN ST. LOUIS

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I decided, after a self-imposed seclusion (my daughter passed away at a young age), to go back out in the world and spread the joy of flowers. I contacted a local supermarket and asked them to save me their wilting flowers that would have been thrown out. I took the best, arranged them in vases, and distributed them to local nursing homes, memory-care facilities and hospice. In this way I have brightened people’s last days on Earth with something that would have otherwise been discarded.

My “mission” has expanded now and includes another store and a shelter for abused women and children.

KATHY IN NAPLES, FLA.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Volunteer to drive people to vote on Election Day. And the easiest—call the aging members of your family regularly and let them talk your ear off!

MARY IN EAST HARTFORD, CONN.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

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## Lady Gaga debuts ARTPOP at iTunes Festival

**LONDON (AP)**—With flying pigs and wigs, Lady Gaga debuted her “ARTPOP” songs at the iTunes Festival.

The pop star performed seven new songs, as she headlined the event at London’s Roundhouse

Sunday night.

It is Gaga’s first solo show since she had hip surgery in February. The concert started with her swinging over the audience in a cage and involved many on-stage costume changes, elabo-

rate wigs and dancers in hazard suits wearing pig masks, hanging from the ceiling.

The songs included “Jewels & Drugs”—a rap number featuring T.I.—pop song “Sex Dreams” and ballad “I Wanna Be With

You.” Also the title track of Gaga’s new album, “ARTPOP,” which is released Nov. 11.

iTunes Festival continues throughout September with Elton John, Justin Timberlake and Katy Perry on the line-up.

## Japan’s Miyazaki to retire after 11 feature films

**VENICE, Italy (AP)**—Oscar-winning director Hayao Miyazaki’s animation studio says “The Wind Rises,” in competition at the Venice Film Festival, will be his last film.

Koju Hoshino announced Mi-

yazaki’s intention to retire Sunday, but declined to take questions, deferring to a news conference next week in Tokyo. “He wants to say goodbye to all of you,” the Studio Ghibli president said.

Miyazaki was not in Venice for

the international premiere. His Italian distributor said he stayed in Japan for the domestic release.

Miyazaki, 72, is one of animation’s most-admired and successful directors. He won an Oscar for “Spirited Away”

in 2003, and a Golden Lion for lifetime achievement in 2005.

“The Wind Rises,” Miyazaki’s 11th feature film, is a fantasy-filled look at the man who designed Japan’s World War II fighter planes.

## ‘Parkland’ presents chaos of Kennedy assassination

**VENICE, Italy (AP)**—Director Peter Landesman says he licensed the infamous footage of John F. Kennedy’s assassination for his film “Parkland” but decided to present it in reflection, and not as a straight image, to present events from an angle no one has seen before.

Landesman called Abraham Zapruder’s film “probably the most-examined film in history,” but said his movie “is not out to pick a fight” over conspiracy theories.

He therefore chose to show the historic images reflected in the eyeglasses of Zapruder, played by Paul

Giamatti, to give the perspective of a witness. He said the film aims to show “the disorientation and the chaos” of the day and present events from a new perspective.

The film, with an ensemble cast, premieres Sunday in competition at the Venice Film Festival.



Landesman

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Beetle Bailey creator honored on 90th birthday

**STAMFORD, Conn. (AP)**—Beetle Bailey was known to be a lazy Army private, but the creator of the popular comic strip is getting accolades from top military brass and others as he celebrates his 90th birthday. Mort Walker is receiving good wishes from Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey, Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Dolly Parton and even Prince Albert II of Monaco. Walker’s birthday is Sept. 3. He lives in Stamford,

Conn. He told The Associated Press in 2010 as the comic strip marked its 60th anniversary that he would continue with his creation until he’s no longer able. The comic strip featuring Beetle Bailey, Sarge and his dog, Otto, Gen. Amos Halltrack and Miss Buxley has more than 200 million readers in 52 countries.

#### Burning Man crowd in Nevada desert tops 61,000

**RENO, Nevada (AP)**—A federal official says more than 61,000 people have turned out so far for the weekend Burning Man outdoor art and music festival in the Black Rock Desert of northern Nevada. U.S. Bureau

of Land Management spokesman Mark Turney said Saturday that gate management was tightened Friday when organizers got close to a permitted capacity of 68,000. Turney says the crowd ebbs and flows at the festival taking place about 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of Reno. He says organizers reported one person was flown to a hospital by medical helicopter this week after being struck by a vehicle. No other serious incidents have been reported. Attendance peaked last year at 56,000.

#### Royal ride: Queen’s Daimler sells for \$63K

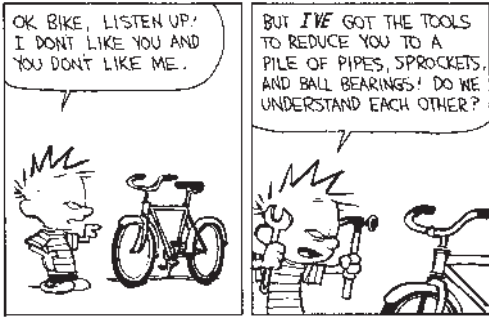
**LONDON (AP)**—A green Daimler owned and driven by

Queen Elizabeth II has been sold at auction for 40,500 pounds (\$62,755.) Auction house Histories said the queen used the vehicle from 2001 to 2004 to travel around Windsor Castle and to go to and from Buckingham Palace. It says the monarch at times drove the car herself, and sometimes was driven in it. The auction house says the car comes with several modifications, including an adapted arm rest with a sliding space designed to hold the queen’s handbag. It added that the interior features lambs’ wool rugs and other extra fittings. The car was sold to an unnamed buyer in Surrey, near London, on Saturday.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



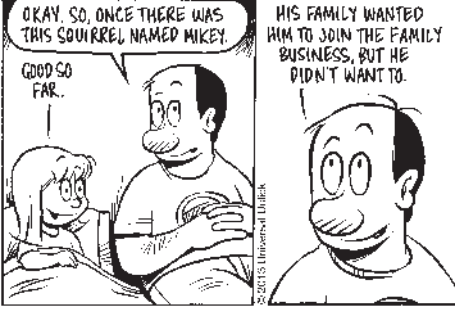
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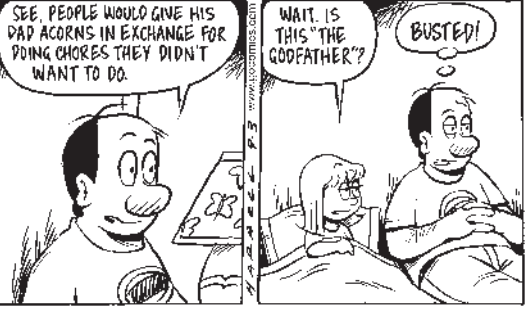
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ACROSS 37 Mistake 38 Capital of Veracruz 41 Time of your life? 42 Pennsylvania port 43 Unlikely winner 48 Burn something 49 Explosive letters 50 Continental money 51 Scottish hats 52 Last letter 53 Abound

DOWN 1 Long sandwich 16 Drunkard 20 A-1

Solution time: 21 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 9-3

31 PC pictures 32 Dined 33 1969 headline event 35 Pocket bread 36 Jostle

21 Mosque bigwig 22 Unaccompanied 23 Corporate emblem 24 Pry 26 Over-sentimentality 27 Barber's concern 28 "Beetle Bailey" dog 29 Rend 31 "The jig —!" 34 The Cavs and the Mavs 35 Like a car radio, maybe 37 Early bird? 38 Kid around 39 Vicinity 40 Actor Neeson 41 Initial stake 44 Individual 45 Shading 46 Raw rock 47 Male turkey

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shaun White, 27; Garrett Hedlund, 29; Paz de la Huerta, 29; Charlie Sheen, 48.

Happy Birthday: A change in the way you handle your money or how much you have is heading your way. Keep personal finances a secret to avoid having others take advantage of your generosity. Invest in your skills and knowledge. This is a year to excel, and spending time and money on self-improvement will pay off. Your numbers are 4, 13, 17, 21, 29, 34, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take action if something isn't going right. Do whatever you can to bring about a better understanding with regard to an important partnership. Be willing to make changes if it will help the situation. Romance will enhance your love life. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make sure that everything is in order at home. Discuss any problems you face with friends, relatives or colleagues before the situation heats up. Being proactive will encourage others to help find workable solutions. Work as a team player. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): What you do to help others will bring you great satisfaction. Take action in good faith and you will counter the negative criticism you face from those who don't like change. You can make a difference if you follow your heart. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Discuss private matters and you will get answers that will help you pursue new avenues. Don't live in the past or try to change the impos-

sible. Take the road less traveled and enjoy the ride. Make peace and keep moving. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Passion, excitement and making changes to your life will boost your confidence and bring favorable results. Opportunities that are within reach and a change of location or a trip will encourage you to explore new people, places and pastimes. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Apply what you know to a worthwhile cause. Your ability to act on behalf of others will enhance your reputation and your prospects for future opportunities. Don't be shy when your talent can be put to good use. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep life simple and your plans moderate. Don't let the past discourage you or the future overwhelm you. Balance will be required to make the best choices. Don't let anyone push you in a direction you don't want to go. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't get angry; get even. Success is the sweetest revenge, so get down to business and do whatever it takes to outdo your competition. Use your keen vision and ability to add extra detail and you will excel masterfully. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put some thought into ways you can earn more cash or turn something you have into a profit on the open market. Bring about change that will enhance your home life and ensure that you connect with people you find exhilarating. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider ways to add value to your home, your investments or even a hobby you enjoy doing. A serious look at how you have excelled in the past and what you enjoy doing most will result in a plan that has potential. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll have to deal with institutions, government agencies or authority figures in such a way that you don't compromise your freedom to move forward with your personal goals. Don't let anger lead to a poor decision. Think before you act. ★★★★★

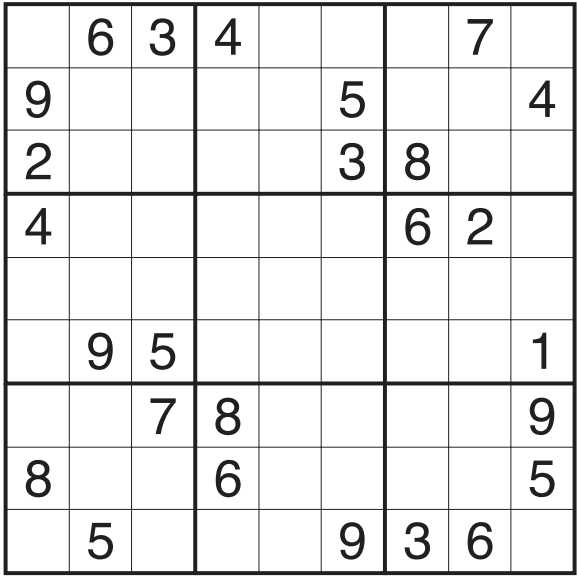
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let your intuition guide you. You will pick up on any nuance portrayed, allowing you to make an offer that is too hard to refuse. Enjoy your ability to play the game of life to the max. Gains are within reach. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, curious and intelligent. You are impulsive and fun loving.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

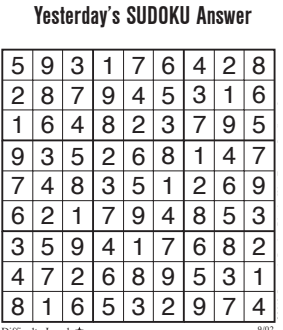
SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★ 9/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



Difficulty Level ★ 9/02

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

KISS AND MAKE UP Solution: 9 letters



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Accept, Actions, Beauty, Believe, Better, Cake, Calm, Cares, Caring, Contact, Date, Deal, Dinner, Feelings, Fight, Flowers, Greeting, Heart, Honesty, Hope, Hugs, Idea, Idioms, Kind, Kisses, Lips, Love, Magical, Memory, Night, Outcome, Pals, Passion, Relation, Respect, Secure, Show, Sign, Sincere, Smile, Song, Special, Support, Time, Trust, Value, Visit, Words.

Yesterday's Answer: Bella Mafia

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, volumes 26 and 27 call 1-800-642-6490. Order online at [wonderword.universaljclick.com](http://wonderword.universaljclick.com). (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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# '12 Open champ Williams beats Stephens, reaches QF



**NEW YORK**  
(AP) — For eight intense, entertaining games, Sloane Stephens stayed right with Serena Williams.

For a 40-minute stretch in the fourth round of the U.S. Open, the top two American women put on quite a show. Both hit serves topping 115 mph. Both whipped groundstrokes to the corners. Both covered a lot of ground, extending points with leg-churning defense. Both showed the occasional sign of nerves, reflecting what a big deal this was, in part because the 15th-seeded Stephens already was one of only three players to beat No. 1 Williams this season.

Until, that is, the score was 4-all in the first set Sunday. That's when Williams took over.

The 20-year-old Stephens' time at the top of tennis may come. For now, the 31-year-old Williams is still as good as it gets. Taking eight of the last nine games, defending champion Williams returned to the quarterfinals at Flushing Meadows by beating Stephens 6-4, 6-1.

"When you give her that opportunity to take that step forward, she definitely makes her move," Stephens said. "Unfortunately, today she made her move. I just couldn't get back in."

Still, all in all, it was remarkably compelling and, within individual points, rather evenly played for what turned out to be such a runaway.

"I definitely think it was a high-quality match," said Williams, 64-4 with eight titles this year. "We both came out today to play."

She advanced to play No. 18 Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain, who defeated No. 8 Angelique Kerber of Germany 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3). Asked whether there's any chance of a letdown after getting past Stephens, Williams replied: "Absolutely not. I mean, I've been at this for a long time, so for me in my career, there are no letdowns."



Serena Williams returns a shot to Sloane Stephens during the fourth round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Sunday in New York.

In Sunday's other fourth-round women's matches, No. 3 Agnieszka Radwanska lost 6-4, 6-4 to No. 24 Ekaterina Makarova, and 2011 French Open champion Li Na eliminated 2008 U.S. Open runner-up Jelena Jankovic 6-3, 6-0.

In men's third-round action, the last of 15 Americans in the field lost, making this the first U.S. Open in history without at least one representative from the host country in the fourth round. Wild-card recipient Tim Smyczek, who is ranked 109th, was beaten 6-4, 4-6, 0-6, 6-3, 7-5 by Marcel Granollers of Spain.

It also means no U.S. man reached the fourth round at any of the four Grand Slam tournaments in 2013.

Granollers, who is ranked 43rd, now takes on No. 1 Novak Djokovic, a 6-0, 6-2, 6-2 winner over 95th-ranked Joao Sousa of Portugal.

The man Djokovic lost to in

last year's U.S. Open final, and this year's Wimbledon final, Andy Murray, struggled with his breathing on a muggy afternoon but otherwise faced little trouble in a 7-6 (2), 6-2, 6-2 victory over 47th-ranked Florian Mayer of Germany. Murray has won 29 of his last 31 Grand Slam matches, a run of success that includes his first two major titles—at the U.S. Open last September and Wimbledon this July—along with two runner-up finishes.

"The expectations are higher, but there's not as much pressure to win," the third-seeded Murray said. "I feel much more comfortable coming into these events than this time last year."

In the fourth round, he'll play 65th-ranked Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan, who eliminated No. 20 Andreas Seppi 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 3-6, 6-1. Other matchups set Sunday are 2001 U.S. Open champion Lleyton Hewitt against No. 21 Mikhail Youzhny, and No. 5

Tomas Berdych against No. 9 Stanislas Wawrinka.

"It was a bit hot, a bit humid, but otherwise, tennis was good," Berdych said after his 6-0, 6-3, 6-2 victory over No. 31 Julien Benneteau. "I managed to stay focused from the first point 'til the last. Didn't do any ups and downs."

The same almost could have been said by Williams, whose match against Stephens was eagerly anticipated from the moment the draw came out 1 1/2 weeks ago. At the outset, anyway, it lived up to the hype.

Williams was the oldest player to reach the fourth round; Stephens the youngest. Williams owns 16 Grand Slam titles, including four at the U.S. Open, and 54 trophies total. Despite being the only current member of the top 20 in the WTA rankings without an appearance in a tournament final, Stephens has earned the label of "Next

Big Thing," in large part by being one of three women to get to round of 16 at all four Grand Slam tournaments in 2013 (Williams, of course, is another).

Stephens' highlight to date was a semifinal run at the Australian Open in January, when she stunned Williams in the quarterfinals. Only adding to Sunday's story line, Stephens has said some unflattering things about Williams.

As they sat in their sideline chairs after warming up under a ceiling of gray clouds at Arthur Ashe Stadium, spectators began choosing sides. One yelled, "Come on, Serena!" Another, "Go, Sloane!" Williams opened Game 1 with a 96 mph ace and closed it with a 112 mph service winner. In between, Stephens managed to return a 118 mph serve. In Game 2, Stephens cranked a forehand winner down the line that drew gasps from the stands, and moments

later, won a 24-stroke exchange thanks to fantastic retrieving.

Game 4 alone lasted 18 points over 11 minutes, and featured a 119 mph service winner by Stephens, who also delivered a cross-court backhand winner to cap a 10-shot point. When that game ended, it wasn't yet time to change ends, but both women wandered over to the sideline to towel off.

Soon, Williams nosed ahead, breaking to 4-2 with a cross-court forehand return winner off a 101 mph serve, the clenching a fist and shouting, "Come on!" But she handed a break right back in the next game by double-faulting on each of the last two points.

"I have to stop that," Williams said.

After she held to 5-4, everything changed, and Stephens was mostly her own undoing. One point from making it 5-all, she rushed an easy forehand, pushing it long, and slumped her head and shoulders. Then she sailed another forehand long. And, finally, she sent a forehand wide. Each point lasted three strokes: serve, return, bad groundstroke. Just like that, Williams broke to take the first set.

Those were three of Stephens' 29 unforced errors, 16 more than Williams made.

Stephens made one last stand in the opening game of the second set, earning a break point. But Williams wound up holding with the help of a 125 mph service winner and a 123 mph ace. Stephens wouldn't get another break chance. Indeed, take away the one service game Williams lost—the one with the duo of double-faults—and she won 35 of 44 points she served.

Afterward, Stephens spoke about embracing others' expectations and her personal goal of moving into the top 10 in the rankings by year's end. She also spoke about Williams, of course, and kept returning to a concept that was rather clear on this day, saying more than once: "She's No. 1 in the world for a reason."

## Gronkowski takes part in first full-pads practice



**FOXBOROUGH, Mass.**  
(AP) — Rob Gronkowski looked "almost

Gronk-esque" on Sunday as he practiced in full pads for the first time since having back surgery.

The star tight end for the New England Patriots participated in drills with his teammates during the 15 minutes reporters were allowed to observe the start of practice.

Gronkowski isn't expected to play in the first few games but wasn't placed on the physically unable to perform list, a move that would have required him to miss at least the first six games of the season.

"He looked good," tight end Michael Hoomanawanui. "He

looked almost Gronk-esque."

In his three NFL seasons, Gronkowski has been chosen for two Super Bowls and caught 187 passes for 38 touchdowns despite missing the last five regular-season games last year.

He's had four operations this year, three on his broken left forearm and one on his back on June 18. He had another forearm surgery last year after breaking it on Nov. 18 while blocking on an extra point against the Indianapolis Colts.

Gronkowski walked into the locker room with a smile Sunday and told reporters he would speak with them later in the week. The other two tight ends were glad to see him working out in pads. During training camp, he frequently watched

practice from the sideline while dressed in a T-shirt and shorts.

"It was very cool to see him out there" on Sunday, said tight end Zach Sudfeld, who made the team as a rookie free agent from Nevada. "This is the first time I've been able to practice and have him be out there, so it was a great experience."

The cheerful Gronkowski has attended team and positional meetings and watched film, so he hasn't been a stranger to his teammates.

Practicing with him, though, provided "a little sense of normality," Hoomanawanui said. "It's definitely great to have him out there back with the team even though we see him each and every day in every meeting. We're used to that,

but just to have him out there—Gronk being Gronk—kind of lifts everyone's spirits, helps the team out."

Last year's other star tight end, Aaron Hernandez, is being held without bail on a murder charge. The Patriots released veteran tight ends Jake Ballard and Daniel Fells on Saturday.

That left just Gronkowski, Hoomanawanui and Sudfeld as tight end on the roster.

Sudfeld was expected to make the team after a strong preseason but was thrilled to get the official word on Saturday.

"I was very excited, obviously," he said. "It's kind of a childhood dream come true to make the team in the NFL. But, at this point, I'm trying to look forward because there's a lot

of work that has to be done. ... Now the real work begins."

At 6-feet-7 and 260 pounds, Sudfeld is about the same size as Gronkowski.

"He's been teaching me a lot," Sudfeld said. "Just for him to be able to show me the ropes a little bit has been really good."

Hoomanawanui is three inches shorter than Sudfeld and has greater versatility, sometimes lining up in the backfield. He played 14 games for the Patriots last year after being released by the St. Louis Rams on the final mandatory cut. He has 25 catches in 30 NFL games.

He took a pay cut this year to stay with the Patriots.

"It's tough going from team to team. I've done that once before, last year, and the learning curve is tough," he said. "Usually, the guys that pick up on it are the guys that'll stick around.

... Being able to come back here in the offseason, in the spring, in training camp, definitely helped my cause."

So did his ability to fill different roles.

"Since I got here that has always been my (goal), to do whatever it is that (coach Bill Belichick) needs me to do to help them win," he said. "I think coaches have noticed that and I've taken it to heart and really worked on that. So that's why I'm still here."

He's here practicing, again, with Gronkowski.

"He's the same each and every day," Hoomanawanui said. "There's really no highs and lows with him, no matter the situation, and I think that's maybe the greatest characteristic of all. He's obviously a great football player, but things he brings to the meetings and the team each and every day are pretty special, too."



# Crisp, Vogt hit homers as Griffin, A's beat Rays



**OAKLAND, California**  
(AP)—Coco

Crisp and Stephen Vogt homered and A.J. Griffin struck out seven in seven innings as the Oakland Athletics completed a three-game sweep of fellow playoff contender Tampa Bay with a 5-1 victory Sunday.

After Crisp led off the bottom of the first with a home run, James Loney tied it with his own longball in the top of the second. Griffin (12-9) settled in after that to win his second straight outing following a four-start winless stretch.

Griffin allowed one run on five hits and walked one.

Alex Torres (4-1)—the first of six Rays relievers—pitched 3 1-3 innings of relief, giving up a go-ahead RBI single to Brandon Moss in the third.

## Twins 4, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Texas, Kevin Correia pitched seven strong innings as the Twins clinched their first series victory at Texas in four years, beating the AL West-leading Rangers.

Correia (9-10) allowed one run and scattered five hits. The right-hander struck out two and got 14 outs on the ground, including a pair of double plays.

Rangers starter Travis Blackley (2-2) was gone after giving up three consecutive run-scoring hits with one out in the fifth.

Mitch Moreland and A.J. Pierzynski homered for the Rangers, who had finished August with an AL-best 20-7 record.

## Orioles 7, Yankees 3

In New York, J.J. Hardy and Adam Jones hit three-run homers in the seventh inning as the Orioles suddenly broke loose, jolting the Yankees to avert a sweep in a matchup of wild-card contenders.

Shut out on three singles Saturday, the Orioles were blanked by Andy Pettitte for six innings before their seven-run rally against the 41-year-old lefty and a faltering bullpen.

Michael Morse lined a lead-off single against Pettitte to begin the comeback from a 3-0 deficit. Acquired from Seattle on Friday, he got two hits in his Baltimore debut.

Hardy's shot against Shawn Kelley (4-2) glanced off the glove of right fielder Curtis Granderson and put the Orioles ahead 4-3.

Rookie Kevin Gausman (2-3) pitched two scoreless innings after starter Wei-Yin Chen walked a career-high five.

## Indians 4, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Mike Aviles hit a grand slam in the ninth inning that lifted Cleveland to a win over the Tigers.

The AL Central leaders had won seven straight against second-place Cleveland.

Joe Smith (6-2) got the win



Oakland Athletics' A.J. Griffin works against the Tampa Bay Rays in the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, Sept. 1, 2013, in Oakland, Calif.

after giving up one hit and a walk in the eighth, keeping the Tigers scoreless after Danny Salazar's strong start.

Joaquin Benoit (4-1) gave up Aviles' slam after intentionally walking Jason Kubel to load the bases.

Detroit rested banged-up star Miguel Cabrera for a second straight game.

## Royals 5, Blue Jays 0

In Toronto, James Shields pitched seven innings of three-hit ball to win his fourth straight decision and Eric Hosmer drove in two runs as the Royals beat the Blue Jays to avoid a three-game sweep.

The Royals won for the sixth time in eight games. They are 5 1/2 games behind Tampa Bay in the AL wild-card race.

Former Blue Jays infielder Emilio Bonifacio had two hits, scored twice and stole two bases for the Royals. Shields (10-8) improved to 4-0 with a 1.53 ERA in his past five starts. The right-hander walked one and matched a season-high with nine strikeouts.

Blue Jays left-hander J.A. Happ (3-5) lost his third straight start, allowing five runs, three earned, and six hits in four innings.

## Red Sox 7, White Sox 6

In Boston, David Ortiz continued to rebound from a miserable stretch with two hits and three RBIs, leading the Red Sox to a win over the White Sox that completed a three-game sweep.

Stephen Drew added a solo homer for the AL East-leading Red Sox, who won for the seventh time in eight games.

Ortiz is 5 for 9 with six RBIs since going hitless in his previous 23 at-bats.

Brandon Workman (4-2) got four outs for the victory after starter Felix Doubront couldn't make it out of the fourth inning.

Tyler Flowers had a solo homer and Conor Gillaspie drove in two runs for the White Sox.

Boston had opened a 5-0 lead after three innings against starter Andre Rienzo (1-1).

## Astros 2, Mariners 0

In Houston, rookie Brett Oberholtzer pitched a four-hitter and Jason Castro hit an RBI double in the eighth inning, lifting the Astros to a win over Seattle.

The 24-year-old Oberholtzer (4-1) struck out five and walked one. He did not allow an extra-base hit in his sixth career start and ninth appearance to lower his ERA to 2.79.

Seattle starter Hisashi Iwakuma scattered six hits and struck out seven. It was the third time in four starts that he'd pitched seven innings.

Charlie Furbush (2-5) took over for Iwakuma in the eighth and Jose Altuve greeted him with a double that rolled into the corner of right field. Castro followed with a ground-rule double to give Houston the lead.

## Cardinals 7, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Matt Holliday and David Freese drove in two runs each as the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Pittsburgh Pirates to move back into a share of the NL Central lead.

Matt Carpenter, Allen Craig, Yadier Molina and Shane Robinson added two hits each for St. Louis, which jumped on Pittsburgh rookie Kris Johnson (0-2) early to snap a three-game skid.

Joe Kelly (7-3) allowed one run and four hits in six solid in-

nings to win his fourth straight start. Kelly struck out five and walked two to remain unbeaten since June 5.

Justin Morneau went 1 for 3 in his debut with the Pirates a day after Pittsburgh acquired the first baseman from Minnesota to bolster the franchise's bid for its first playoff appearance in 21 years.

## Dodgers 2, Padres 1

In Los Angeles, Zack Greinke allowed one run over seven innings and Yasiel Puig homered in the sixth as Los Angeles beat San Diego to complete a three-game sweep.

The NL West leaders earned their 10th sweep of the season and first against San Diego. They extended their roll from August, when the Dodgers went 23-6 for their most wins in a month since moving to Los Angeles in 1958.

Greinke (14-3) won his sixth straight start for the first time since winning nine in a row over the 2008-09 seasons. The right-hander gave up two hits, struck out seven and walked two. Greinke, who came in batting .340, also singled with two outs in the fifth.

Puig hit his 14th homer on the first pitch he saw from Dale Thayer (2-5) in the sixth, giving the Dodgers a 2-1 lead. The sell-out crowd of 52,168 cheered the 22-year-old Cuban defector on Cuban Heritage Day.

Kenley Jansen struck out two in the ninth for his 24th save in 27 chances.

## Rockies 7, Reds 4

In Denver, Todd Helton doubled for his 2,500th career hit, Michael Cuddyer homered among his four hits and Colorado overcame the loss

of starting pitcher Tyler Chatwood to beat Cincinnati.

Helton became the 96th player in major league history to reach 2,500 hits. Cuddyer went 4 for 4 with three RBIs.

Shin-Soo Choo homered and had three hits for the Reds. Chris Heisey was 4 for 4.

The Rockies broke it open in the fifth against starter Mike Leake (11-6). DJ LeMahieu's two-run double snapped a 2-all tie, Troy Tulowitzki walked and Cuddyer doubled to make it 5-2.

Nolan Arenado, who homered earlier, added a sacrifice fly off reliever Alfredo Simon.

Chatwood, activated from the 15-day disabled list before the game, left in the third with a bruised right thumb three batters after he tried to catch Leake's line drive with his bare hand.

Adam Ottavino (1-2) tossed three scoreless innings for the win.

## Giants 8, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Yusmeiro Petit struck out a career-high 10, Hector Sanchez drove in three runs and San Francisco beat Arizona to take two of three from the Diamondbacks.

Hunter Pence homered, doubled and singled, driving in two runs and scoring three times as the Giants improved to 10-5 against Arizona this season.

Patrick Corbin (13-5), pitching on two extra days of rest, allowed five runs on nine hits in five innings to fall to 1-4 in his last seven starts.

Petit (2-0), who pitched for the Diamondbacks from 2007-09, went six-plus innings, allowing two runs and seven hits in his first career start against Arizona. He also singled in a run, his second career RBI.

## Marlins 7, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Nathan Eovaldi combined with Steve Cishek on an eight-hit shutout and Jeff Mathis homered and drove in three runs as Miami beat Atlanta to stop a six-game losing streak.

Ed Lucas had a two-run single and Mathis added a two-run double in the Marlins' five-run third inning.

Eovaldi (3-5) halted Miami's skid and his personal five-game slide by earning his first win since July 12 against Washington. He gave up seven hits with two walks and six strikeouts in eight innings, his longest start of the season.

Cishek got the final three outs.

Braves rookie Alex Wood (3-3) yielded seven runs and eight hits in 2 1-3 innings as Atlanta's six-game winning streak ended.

Veteran pitcher Freddy Garcia, called up from Triple-A Gwinnett before the game, replaced Wood and threw 4 2-3 scoreless innings.

## Cubs 7, Phillies 1

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta allowed three hits while pitching into the seventh inning and Welington Castillo drove in two runs to lead Chicago over Philadelphia.

Acquired from Baltimore on July 2, Arrieta (2-1) worked around three walks in 6 2-3 innings. Three relievers combined for 2 1-3 shutout innings to give the Cubs their first consecutive home wins since a stretch of three straight July 6-9.

Darin Ruf homered for the Phillies. Kyle Kendrick (10-12) yielded five runs and eight hits in six innings.

## Angels 5, Brewers 3

In Milwaukee, J.B. Shuck hit a three-run double in the seventh inning to rally the Los Angeles Angels past Milwaukee for a three-game sweep.

Mike Trout tripled and doubled among his three hits to help the Angels finish an 8-1 road trip. They have won eight in a row against the Brewers in Milwaukee, dating to 1997.

C.J. Wilson (14-6) gave up three runs and three hits over six innings, improving to 10-1 in his last 15 starts. Wilson has gone 10 consecutive starts without a loss, tying his career high set in 2011 with Texas.

The Brewers loaded the bases in the eighth. With one out, the Angels brought in closer Ernesto Frieri, who struck out streaking Jonathan Lucroy on 12 pitches and Khris Davis to get out of the inning.

Frieri also pitched a scoreless ninth for his 30th save in 34 chances.

Kole Calhoun drove in two runs for the Angels.

Kyle Lohse gave up one run in six innings for Milwaukee, and Carlos Gomez hit a two-run homer. Rob Wooten (3-1) allowed three runs in relief.



# Garcia leads a low-scoring pace in Boston

**Deutsche Bank CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**NORTON, Mass. (AP)—**Sergio Garcia was doing everything right. He had the lead going into the third round. He kept bogeys off his card and made two birdies on the front nine.

And he was losing ground Sunday in the Deutsche Bank Championship.

“You could make a lot of birdies if everything went exactly the right way, kind of like it went on the back nine for me,” Garcia said. “But you have to be patient and just wait for the right time.”

Garcia regained control on the back nine of the rain-softened TPC Boston, making five birdies for a 6-under 65 that gave him a two-shot lead over Henrik Stenson. Garcia hit 4-iron from 218 yards onto the 18th green for a two-putt birdie as darkness settled over New England on this longest of days.

But nothing is close to being settled at this FedEx Cup playoff event.

Not with such a soft course, with preferred lies, with mint conditions on the putting surfaces and the world’s best players—most of them, anyway—in top form. There were 332 birdies and 10 eagles in the third round, translating to sub-par holes 32 percent of the time.

“There’s heaps of low scores out there,” Stenson said after his 66. “You have to keep making birdies if you want to have anything to do with this tournament. Today was no different. It’s going to be the same tomorrow. I’m sure everyone is coming at us from all different angles.”

Tee times have been moved up to Monday morning because of the threat of more rain.

Garcia was at 19-under 194, though



Sergio Garcia, of Spain, hits from the fourth tee during the third round of the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament in Norton, Mass., Sunday, Sept. 1, 2013.

the Spaniard isn’t great at protecting the 54-hole lead. His record is 3-7 when he has at least a share of the lead going into the last day. And this Labor Day figures to live up to its name. It will take hard work to stay there.

Graham DeLaet of Canada all but locked up a spot on the Presidents Cup team with a 62 that left him three shots behind with Steve Stricker, who had a 63 and took a big step toward making the U.S. team for the matches next month at Muirfield Village.

PGA champion Jason Dufner had a share of the lead until cooling off on the back nine. He had a 66 and was tied for fifth at 15-under 198 with Robert Castro (68).

About the only ones who couldn’t keep up were the star attractions at the start of the week—Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson.

Mickelson, who started the third round five shots out of the lead, had his second straight 71, and this one wasn’t

exciting at all. He had three birdies, three bogeys, 12 pars and wound up 12 shots behind.

Woods didn’t get anything going early and fell apart on the back nine, starting with a tee shot into a hazard well right of the 10th fairway. He began the back nine with three straight bogeys and ended with a three-putt par on the 18th for a 1-over 72. It ended six straight rounds in the 60s in the FedEx Cup playoffs, and much worse, left him with no chance of winning going into the off week. He was 13 shots back.

“I just didn’t have it today,” Woods said. “I just didn’t hit it well. I didn’t make anything. I had a bad day at the wrong time.”

The average score was 68.2, and anything higher than that meant losing ground.

“We can’t control the weather,” Garcia said. “And you’ve just got to go out there and try to play the best you can. And I was very happy to see that my

best was 6-under.”

Monday is filled with plenty of ramifications.

Garcia is trying to end a troublesome season with his first PGA Tour victory of the year, trying to move past his humbling moment this spring when a public spat with Woods led to Garcia making a racially insensitive “fried chicken” comment at a London dinner. Stenson has done everything but win in the last two months—third at the Scottish Open and PGA Championship, runner-up at the British Open and a World Golf Championship.

Stricker’s goal when he showed up at the Deutsche Bank was to make the Presidents Cup team so that U.S. captain Fred Couples wouldn’t have to consider using a pick, if Stricker even wants to be picked. Now only three shots behind, Stricker is thinking more about a chance to win for the first time this year, go to the Presidents Cup and set up a family working vacation at Kapalua next year.

The top 70 in the FedEx Cup advance to the third playoff event in two weeks north of Chicago. Ernie Els is among those on the cusp. Ian Poulter, despite a pair of late bogeys, had a 66 and was six shots out of the lead. He appears safe for Chicago, and now can try to think about qualifying for the Tour Championship for the first time.

Rory McIlroy made the cut on the number and still was lingering at the bottom of the pack after a double bogey. Then, he ran off eight birdies over his last 13 holes, with girlfriend Caroline Wozniacki showing up for the last two hours. McIlroy was too far back to win, but he can make his bid for the Tour Championship a lot easier.

## CLINIC

From Page 28

Hong Kong National Team player Kwok On “David” Tsui of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong led the weekend clinic and were assisted by SSS’ Jerishwin Angeles, Mae Ito, Russell Zapanta, and Irish Pagarao.

The clinic was divided into stages and participants were grouped into three. The first part of the event focused how one can be a better coach. Tsui emphasized the importance of having discipline by coming to the practice and game or any event early and being dressed properly. He also pointed out that a coach must set a specific training program for the day and have a back-up plan if things go the other way.

“By showing up early at practice and games, you are setting a good example

to your players. You are encouraging them to keep coming to the games and training session because you are ready to teach them new skills,” Tsui said.

The next stages of the clinic focused on drills. Coaches were first thought warm-up drills like free dribbling and small touches on a small playing area. The clinic progressed with Tsui and Chung teaching coaches more dribbling, passing, ball control, and shooting skills. While having these drills, coaches made instructions and comments to get everybody up of their feet, enjoying every bit of the activity.

“It is important, especially for young players, to enjoy what they are doing during practices and games. Find ways to get their interest when doing drills,” said Tsui, who called out plays and drills after the hotels on Saipan and famous soccer players.

Tsui added everybody should be involved in the drills and this is where the small-sided games come in. In this stage, coaches were split into four teams and two games were played simultaneously. SSS staff took charge in the last drill, as they were stationed at the center court and fed players balls.

“Cones were used as goals. Every time the ball goes out, a coach will feed a new ball. This drill will develop reaction from the players. A coach can feed ball to a player who seldom touches the ball and time is not wasted on chasing the ball outside the field,” Angeles said.

At the end of the clinic, Tsui and Chung reviewed participants about the drills and their importance.

“It is very crucial that they do these kinds of drills to encourage kids to play always. At this age (8 to 12), keeping their interest in soccer is as important

as teaching them skills,” said Chung, who is on his second leg of helping SSS train coaches.

“I usually stay for 45 days and though it was long and I am away from my family, it is worth it, as I am able to help coaches. I remember when I first came here, there were only a few coaches, now we have a lot and that shows more and more coaches are willing to learn and train young players,” Chung said.

Kanoa FC’s Lani Santos was one of the participants of the weekend clinic that focused on grassroots soccer and said that after the event they realized more the value of teaching young players the right fundamentals.

“This is the ‘golden age.’ We have to teach them the proper way of playing the sport and help them enjoy every part of the game,” Santos said.

## DFS

From Page 28

“We are humbled by DFS’ support to the Hell of Marianas event. Getting help from private companies like DFS will help us continue hosting this most exciting cycling race in the CNMI,” said Seman, whose group took over the organizing chores from Pacific Islands Club.

Last year, PIC announced it will no longer spearhead the staging of the 100-kilometer race around the island, leaving both local and off-island bikers guessing if the annual event will be shelved for the 2013 season.

However, NMICF, Quinn, and main sponsor Marianas Visitors Authority stepped up, ensuring that Hell of Mari-

anas will still hit the road this year.

“Through the help of MVA and other sponsors, we will be able to continue the legacy of Hell of Marianas founder Kieran Daly. We also hope to bring a better and bigger race this year,” Seman said.

Quinn echoed Seman’s sentiments, saying more companies are coming in to ensure that the race will be a successful one.

“What a generous sponsorship from DFS. Others are also coming in and we’re very thankful that they are supporting this great event,” Quinn said.

For her part, Aldan, who is also a biker, said supporting a sports event like the Hell of Marianas shows DFS commitment to promoting active and healthy lifestyle among its employees

“We actually want to encourage our employees to be active and join sports. An active and healthy employee always comes to work,” said Aldan-Pierce, whose company is also sponsoring running, golf, and tennis tournaments.

“Now, we made a transition to biking because it is for any age group. The DFS president who is based in Hawaii is also an avid biker. We have a very beautiful island and one of the best ways to enjoy it is to hop on your bike,” Aldan-Pierce said.

For non-bikers, the DFS Saipan president said they can still support the Hell of Marianas. She said motorists must give way to bikers and not drive close to them. This will ensure the safety of both the bikers and motor-

ists not only during the Hell Marianas, but every day. Aldan-Pierce also called on residents who own dogs, which she said should be put on a leash or be kept inside their property.

“When we go biking, some dogs chase us,” she said.

Meanwhile, DFS is the second title sponsor of the Hell of Marianas. Pacific Trading, Co. is the other one, while platinum sponsors include PIC, Mariana Resort & Spa, IT&E, Triple J Rental/Wholesale. The December event has also drawn the support of D&Q Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Sorensen Media Group Power 99, Gold’s Gym, Star Sands Plaza, Seafix Inc., Saipan Submarine, Restaurant 360, and Saipan Shipping Co.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	82	56	.594	—
Tampa Bay	75	60	.556	5 1/2
Baltimore	72	63	.533	8 1/2
New York	72	64	.529	9
Toronto	62	75	.453	19 1/2

##### Central Division

Detroit	80	57	.584	—
Cleveland	72	64	.529	7 1/2
Kansas City	70	66	.515	9 1/2
Minnesota	59	76	.437	20
Chicago	56	79	.415	23

##### West Division

Texas	79	57	.581	—
Oakland	78	58	.574	1
Los Angeles	63	72	.467	15 1/2
Seattle	62	74	.456	17
Houston	45	91	.331	34

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### East Division

Atlanta	83	53	.610	—
Washington	69	67	.507	14
New York	62	73	.459	20 1/2
Philadelphia	62	75	.453	21 1/2
Miami	50	85	.370	32 1/2

##### Central Division

Pittsburgh	79	57	.581	—
St. Louis	79	57	.581	—
Cincinnati	76	61	.555	3 1/2
Milwaukee	59	77	.434	20
Chicago	58	78	.426	21

##### West Division

Los Angeles	81	55	.596	—
Arizona	69	66	.511	11 1/2
Colorado	65	73	.471	17
San Francisco	61	75	.449	20
San Diego	60	76	.441	21

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## BRAVES

From Page 28

who dropped to a 0-4 slate.

The Tigers failed to enter the win column, as the Braves’ bat showed up in last four innings after being silent in the first three. Keene Deleon Guerrero started out for the Tigers and struck out the first three batters. He got two more strikeouts in the second and early in the third before taking a set and leading his team to a 3-0 advantage.

However, the Tigers lost the driver’s seat, as their next four pitches struggled against the Braves’ batters. The Braves tied the match at the top of the fourth with two runs off wild pitches and throw and an RBI walk. More wild pitches in the fifth put the Braves on top, 6-4, and they never looked back, as they added four more (two earned) in the sixth, and one in the last inning.

On offense, the Braves outfielders were on top of the play, getting seven fly balls and relief pitcher Martin Logan allowed only one hit and struck out two in four innings pitch.

## Giants 7, Cardinals 2

In the other game last Saturday, the Giants (3-1) thumped the Cardinals (0-3).

K.J. Deleon Guerrero allowed only one hit, stranded three runners, and struck out two to neutralize the Cardinals, who failed to score in the first four innings. The Giants led, 3-0, after four complete innings, getting two runs off the Cardinals miscues and an RBI single from Franco Nakamura.

The Cardinals went on to break the spell at the top of the fifth, as Dave Matagolai stole home, but the Giants earlier added two more runs off Devin Flores’ double to keep their distance. Kenji Yamagata then shut the door on the Cardinals, striking out five batters in the last two innings and giving up only one run.



# Tinian Premier FC vs Paire FC

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Players and officials of Tinian Premier FC and Paire FC pose for a group photo after their friendly matches last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.



Paire players and coach Maria Ornes huddle after the match.



Paire and Tinian players exchange hi-fives after the game.



Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Johann Noetzel poses with the visiting Tinian players.



Tinian coach Philip Mendiola-Long gathers his players at the pitch after the friendly game against Paire.



Paire FC's Guinevere Borja tries dribbling away from her defender.



A Tinian player is up against two Paire defenders.



Two Paire FC players give their teammates a break.



Paire and Tinian players in action in the rain-soaked second half of their game.



Two Tinian players anchor an offensive attack.





**Crisp, Vogt hit homers as Griffin, A's beat Rays**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



**'12 Open champ Williams beats Stephens, reaches QF**

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28 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## 35 join youth coaching clinic

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**W**ith the 2013 Youth Football Fall League just around the corner, Saipan Soccer School hosted a coaching clinic to prepare various clubs for this month's competition.



Thirty-five coaches from the U8 to U12 teams of MP United FC, Paire FC, Tinian Premier FC, Kanoa FC, Shirley's FC, Tan Holdings FC, Matansa FC participated in the two-hour clinic at the San Antonio Elementary School Field last Saturday. AFC License B coach Jason Chung and former

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**Page 26**



From left, Kwok On "David" Tsui, NMIFA president Jerry Tan, and Jason Chung pose for a photo under the banners of Saipan Soccer School and Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong, which teamed up in hosting a youth coaching clinic last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Participants in the Saipan Soccer School's youth coaching clinic perform shooting drills while Chelsea Soccer Club Hong Kong's Kwok On "David" Tsui looks on last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Hell of Marianas gets support from DFS

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

DFS Galleria is on board the 7th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race.

DFS Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce led a donation turnover ceremony last Friday at the DFS office in Garapan, affirming the company's title sponsorship for the Dec. 7 event. Aldan, together with other DFS officials, turned over the \$5,000 ceremonial check to race director Kanae Quinn and Vince Seman of the organizing Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation.

See **DFS** on **Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

DFS Saipan officials and employees and 2013 Hell of Marianas organizers pose for a group photo during the donation turnover ceremony last Friday at the DFS office in Garapan.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Braves' Peter Lieto runs to first, while Ian Rogolifoi approaches home late, as Tigers third baseman Yobech Brel struggles to pick up the ball during the top of the fifth inning of their game in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## Braves streak to third win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The Braves earned their third win in a row after ripping the



Tigers, 10-3, in the 2nd Annual Triple A Youth Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco

"Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Braves improved to a 4-1 record for solo second place behind the unbeaten Padres (6-0), while victory remained elusive for the Tigers, See **BRAVES** on **Page 26**